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Moscow names new envoy to U.S.

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union on Tuesday named Yuri Dubinin, ambassador to the United Nations and a former envoy in Spain, as its new ambassador to the United States. Career diplomat Dubinin, 55, replaces the veteran ambassador to Washington, Anatoly Dobrynin, who was elevated to the inner Kremlin leadership at the Communist Party congress in March. Mr. Dubinin has specialised in Western Europe for most of his diplomatic career. Western diplomats said he appeared to lack the kind of expertise in U.S. affairs that was associated with Mr. Dobrynin. The appointment of Mr. Dubinin, a grey-haired scholar in history, to Moscow's most prestigious diplomatic post was the 34th ambassadorial move announced since Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev took power in March last year. The Western diplomats said it seemed unlikely, but not impossible, that Mr. Dubinin could combine the Washington job with the post at U.N. headquarters in New York.

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King sends message to Saudi leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a message to King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia. The message was carried to Taif on Tuesday by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

Official returns after talks on pilgrims

AMMAN (Petra) — Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi returned to Amman from Saudi Arabia on Tuesday after discussing with Saudi officials means of facilitating the flow of Jordanian pilgrims to perform the Haj. Upon his return Dr. Abbadi said he inspected buildings allocated to host Jordanian pilgrims, and a special piece of land earmarked for camping as well as means of transporting pilgrims to and from the Holy City of Mecca and to Mount Arafat.

IDB lends \$15m to Jordan

JEDDAH (OPECNA) — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) will extend a loan of \$15 million to Jordan under an agreement signed here at the weekend. Jordan will use the credit to import crude oil. The loan for Jordan, signed by IDB President Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali and Jordanian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Mohammad Rasool Al Keilani, brings the total assistance to Jordan by the bank since October to \$45 million.

2 killed in Mafraq accident

AAFAA (J.T.) — Two Jordanians died and another was injured in a road accident on Tuesday on the international highway to Baghdad, police sources said. Captain Saleh Ullayan, director of the traffic police, said a Kuwaiti truck was heading from Mafraq to Amman and was hit by a car. The car lost control and the vehicle overturned and slid down the road, coming to a rest on its back. Driver Hassan Al Khathib, 21, and a 18-year-old student from Basrah, died while Wafiq Ibrahim, 9, was severely injured.

Girl hospitalised or gunshot wound

AMMAN (J.T.) — Fadiha Hamad, a 15-year-old Jordanian girl, was admitted to Mafraq hospital late Tuesday after her sister accidentally fired a bullet at her while playing with her father's revolver, according to hospital sources. Batah, the sources said, "was shot in her head and her general health condition was described as 'average'."

Thatcher to meet Palestinian notables

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told parliament on Tuesday she will not be visiting the occupied West Bank during her trip to Israel next week if she plans to have talks with Palestinian representatives.

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Unified Arab stand is the only way for just peace — Crown Prince

'Jordan keeping door open for Arab unity' 'Arabs should be self-reliant for defence'

Petra

HIS ROYAL Highness Crown Prince Hassan has said intense efforts were under way to end differences among Arab countries and pave the way for holding an Arab summit meeting which could help in charting a unified Arab course towards settling the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In an interview published in the latest issue of Lebanon's Al Ushua' Al Arabi weekly, the Crown Prince said Jordan had been seeking to bring about Arab solidarity since only a unified Arab stand could help find a just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Basing its moves on its belief in the strength of Arab solidarity, Jordan opened the door wide for improving relations with Syria and will continue to keep the door open for all other Arab countries to unify ranks, Prince Hassan said. He said Jordan remains committed to the Palestinian cause

and considers the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people as endorsed by the 1974 Rabat Arab summit resolutions despite Jordan's decision earlier this year to terminate political coordination with the PLO leadership.

A balance between Israel's security and the Palestinian people's right to determine their own future in their own homeland is an essential factor in arriving at a just solution to the Middle East conflict, the Crown Prince said. Such a

balance, he said, could be achieved through implementing United Nations Security Council Resolution 242.

"The Israelis realise that there can be no peace if three million Palestinians remain without a homeland and Israel and the whole world recognise that a military solution to the problem is not the right one," the Crown Prince said.

Jordan has insisted that Resolution 242 be implemented because the Kingdom realises that this resolution defines the basic elements, supported by the Security Council, for peace between Israel and the Arab World, he said. The exchange of land for peace that Jordan had been calling for emanates from Resolution 242, he added. Peace, in Jordan's view, is an essential element to stability in the Middle East, he said.

Prince Hassan called for the establishment of an Arab armament industry to make the Arab Nation self-sufficient in arms and necessary weapons for defence.

Senior Soviet general pledges firm Moscow support for Syria

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — A senior Soviet general has pledged support for Syria's "struggle for its freedom" amid reports Tuesday that Moscow would supply Syria with sophisticated jet fighters and missiles.

The solidarity pledge came from Lieutenant-General Alexei Dimitri Y. Lizitzhev, director of the political department of the Soviet armed forces and navy, in a statement distributed by the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) in Damascus.

Gen. Lizitzhev, who flew in Sunday at the invitation of the Syrian defence ministry, has met his Syrian counterpart Lt.-Gen. Mustafa Tlass and Deputy Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Hassan Turkmani, SANA reported.

"The USSR stands firmly next to Syria's just and sacred struggle for its freedom and dignity, and for the liberation of the (Israeli) occupied territories," SANA quoted Gen. Lizitzhev as saying.

Syria and the Soviet Union are bound by a 20-year treaty of friendship and cooperation signed in 1980. Moscow also is Syria's main arms supplier.

The Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronot said Syria is about to receive a consignment of advanced SS-23 long-range surface-to-surface missiles and MiG-29 jet fighters from the Soviet Union.

It quoted unidentified Western sources as saying the new weapons had been requested by Syria as part of its plan to achieve strategic parity with U.S.-equipped Israel. The Soviet Union had already agreed in principle to provide these systems.

The backbone of Syria's air force is currently the MiG-23 fighter and the MiG-25 foxbat interceptor. The report said Syria will be getting 80 MiG-29s, the most sophisticated warplanes in the Soviet arsenal which are said to be the equivalent of the U.S. F-16.

Arab newspapers in the Gulf region have said the Syrians would get the MiG-29s and the SS-23s to replace the SS-21 and Scud missiles now in Syria's possession before the end of the year.

black nationalist bases, but Mr. Obasanjo said in London on Tuesday: "The ball is in the court of the South African government."

South Africa has threatened to expel thousands of workers from neighbouring states now employed in the racially-segregated nation should their governments back a trade embargo.

In Dakar, Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Chairman Abdou Diouf said the South African raids were "state terrorism" and called on the United Nations to enforce mandatory economic sanctions against Pretoria.

Mr. Diouf said in a statement that the attacks would show the "real face of the hated (South African) regime" to those who still felt apartheid, the policy of racial segregation, could be reformed.

In Geneva, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Jean-Pierre Hocke was shocked and angered by the South African raids, a UNHCR spokesman said.

One of the targets attacked by planes was a UNHCR transit camp for refugees at Makeni, in Zambia.

Yediot Ahronot said the SS-23 has a range of 500 kilometres, which would enable Syria to hit Israeli cities from launching sites well within Syrian territory. The SS-23 is capable of carrying nuclear warheads as well as conventional explosives.

In Tel Aviv, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said that Israel would closely monitor Syria's weapons build-up following the report.

On a tour of Galilee settlements, Mr. Peres said: "Occasionally Syria gets some of the most modern and sophisticated weapons from Soviet Russia. We are aware of it but we have to watch two issues — whether the policy is aggressive and whether the technology is superior. We are watching both very carefully."

Israel Radio quoted Israeli sources in Washington as saying Syria would be buying three Soviet-made submarines in addition to the SS-23 missiles. It said a group of Syrians was already in the Soviet Union training to use the new submarines.

The fighting, involving automatic weapons and rockets, broke out on Monday and continued throughout the night before subsiding at dawn, the sources said.

A spokesman for the Shi'ite Amal militia said two people were killed and 20 wounded outside the Bourj Al Barajneh camp in Beirut's southern suburbs, including 12 Shi'ite students at an evening school. A Palestinian spokesman

said five people were wounded inside the camp.

Each side accused the other of starting the fighting. Amal said armed men in the camp opened fire on a civilian car, wounding one of its occupants, while Palestinian sources said the clashes erupted when an Amal fighter shot and wounded two Palestinians.

Beirut's three Palestinian refugee camps have long been the scene of intermittent fighting, with Amal determined to prevent what it describes as a resurgence of Palestinian military power in Lebanon. Some 35 people were killed and scores displaced in two weeks of clashes last month.

PSP escort for Soviet diplomats sparks kidnap report in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Two Soviet diplomats ventured out unescorted from their heavily guarded embassy compound in west Beirut on Tuesday, sending a kidnap scare sweeping through the Lebanese capital, police said.

Militiamen of Walid Jumblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) raced in a jeep after the departing diplomats, stopped their car at west Beirut's Verdun residential district, hopped in and sped away, police said.

The guards then took the two diplomats to the bank they were heading for in Hamra district, where they cashed checks, and then escorted them back to the embassy, police said.

The interception caused the Voice of the Nation radio station to interrupt its programmes and report the gunpoint abduction of two unknown occupants of a Soviet embassy car.

PSP militiamen have been gua-



King receives Iraqi message

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received a verbal message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Petra did not disclose the contents of the message. It said that the message was conveyed by Mr. Ahmad Hussein, head of the Iraqi presidential office, who arrived in Amman at noon Tuesday.

The audience at Al Nadwa Palace was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Iraq's Ambassador to Jordan Ghafel Jassem Hussein.

Upon his arrival in Amman, the Iraqi envoy was received by Mr. Abu Odeh and the Iraqi ambassador.



His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday receives special Iraqi envoy Ahmad Hussein, who conveyed to him a verbal message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein (Petra photo)

Safadi appointed Petra director

Maraga takes over JCTRCP

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Ali Safadi, adviser at the Information Ministry and former official at the Royal Court's Press Office, has been appointed director general of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, as of June 5, 1986, according to a statement by the Cabinet released on Tuesday.

The announcement, carried by Petra, said Mr. Safadi has replaced Mr. Jawad Maraga who has been elected chairman of the board and managing director of the Jordanian Company for Television, Radio and Cinema Productions (JCTRCP).

The JCTRCP's former chairman and managing director, Mr. Munir Durrah, was elected chairman and managing director of Sawt Al Shaab newspaper on Sunday to replace Mr. Morawid Tell.

The statement gave no reasons for the changes, but said Mr. Maraga was retired from active government service upon his request. The statement also said that Mr. Safadi has assumed his job as acting director general of Petra until his formal appointment takes effect on June 5.

Mr. Van den Broek, Dutch foreign minister, told reporters in The Hague on Tuesday he might hold talks with the PLO during a visit to Tunis next week if the PLO wanted them.

The Israeli foreign ministry said it would call on ambassadors of

community countries to oppose the meeting.

Mr. Van den Broek visits Tunis on Sunday to see Arab League officials as part of a community programme of contacts with parties to the Middle East conflict.

Asked at a news conference if a meeting there with PLO representatives was on the cards, he said: "If it was sought by the PLO, then I would not rule it out."

He added that he understood the organisation was interested in such a meeting, and that Israel had already expressed its concern at the possibility.

Mr. Reagan has until midnight Wednesday to veto a congressional resolution of disapproval against the \$354 million sale of missiles, including shoulder-fired Stingers.

An administration official, speaking Monday on condition of anonymity, said the White House could count 30 Senate votes against an override of Mr. Reagan's veto, four votes short of the number needed to sustain the president if all members are present. Another official, also speaking privately, called the 30-vote estimate "pretty optimistic."

(Continued on page 3)

Palestinians meet Andreotti

OCUPPED JERUSALEM (R) — Four Palestinian leaders from the Israeli-occupied territories urged Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti on Tuesday to seek a greater European role in Middle East peace moves.

After meeting Mr. Andreotti at the Italian consulate in East Jerusalem, Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe, deposed by Israel in 1981, said: "We want the Europeans to activate their role in the peace process... they can understand us better than the Americans."

Fighting dies down around Beirut Palestinian camps

BEIRUT (R) — Clashes between Shi'ite Amal militiamen and Palestinian fighters at a Palestinian refugee camp here died down early Tuesday, with sources on the opposing sides putting the casualty toll at two dead and 25 wounded.

The fighting, involving automatic weapons and rockets, broke out on Monday and continued throughout the night before subsiding at dawn, the sources said.

A spokesman for the Shi'ite Amal militia said two people were killed and 20 wounded outside the Bourj Al Barajneh camp in Beirut's southern suburbs, including 12 Shi'ite students at an evening school. A Palestinian spokesman

said five people were wounded inside the camp.

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Reagan may change details of Saudi arms proposal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Majority leader Bob Dole indicated on Tuesday President Ronald Reagan's administration, struggling to salvage a big arms sale for Saudi Arabia, may change details of the deal to sway votes in Congress.

"There may be some effort to modify the Saudi package if that means picking up votes," Mr. Dole said before Secretary of State George Shultz was due on Capitol Hill to make a pitch during a luncheon meeting of Republican senators.

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(Continued on page 3)

China, Taiwan sign accord over return of plane and crew

HONG KONG (R) — China and Taiwan on Tuesday signed their first accord in 37 years as they formally agreed on the return this week of a Taiwanese cargo jet and crew now held on the Chinese mainland.

Zhang Ruipu, an official of China's national carrier, CAAC, told reporters after a fourth day of meetings the two sides had initiated a "summary of talks."

It called for the return of the China Airlines Boeing 747 cargo jet by Saturday and for the two sides to respect the free will of the three crew.

China agreed on Monday to return the plane and two of the three crew who landed in Canton on May 3 on a routine flight from Bangkok to Hong Kong.

Pilot Wang Xijue has said he defected because he missed his family on the Chinese mainland. The two crew said they wanted to go home.

Monday's breakthrough came on the third day of talks between the two sides in the British colony. They met again on Tuesday to discuss details of the transfer of plane and crew.

Mr. Zhang told reporters: "The two sides signed on an equal basis. It proves there is nothing that cannot be solved between us brothers."

He said the two sides will sign another document when the plane and crew are handed over at Hong Kong's Kai Tak airport. Four representatives of each side will attend the brief ceremony.

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J.T. ANNOUNCEMENT

AS OF Friday, May 23, 1986, the Jordan Times' offices will be relocated in Al Ra'i building. Also starting on that date, our new telephone numbers will be the same as those of our sister newspaper: 667171-6 and 670141-4. Current telephone numbers 666285 and 666320 will no longer be in use after May 23, 1986.

Saudi Arabia bridges rift between Bahrain, Qatar

TAIF, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi Arabian King Fahd has secured the agreement of the rulers of Bahrain and Qatar on the "principles of an immediate plan of action" that he was proposed for settling the territorial water dispute between the two Gulf countries, the Saudi information minister announced Tuesday.

The minister, Sheikh Ali Al Shaer, said the Saudi monarch reported the breakthrough in his efforts to reconcile the conflicting viewpoints of Bahrain and Qatar to the regular weekly cabinet session which ended in the early hours of Tuesday.

The plan of action aimed at "erasing the causes of the dispute," said Sheikh Al Shaer in the statements distributed by the official Saudi Press Agency. Measures to normalise the situation and restore "permanent tranquility" to the Gulf Arab region would be followed up, added the minister.

No details on the purported agreement were given but the Saudi monarch praised the "bro-

therly positive spirit" of Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa of Bahrain and Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani of Qatar, according to the minister.

The agreement was announced after King Fahd received a message from the Qatari ruler, said the minister, indicating that Bahrain had earlier complied with the Saudi monarch's proposals.

The three-week old conflict between the two smaller neighbours of Saudi Arabia erupted when Qatar sent helicopter-borne troops to arrest work on the disputed Fasht Al Dibal coral reef which a Dutch contractor firm was developing into an industrial island and as basis for an advance radar station.

The two countries are members of the Saudi Arabian-led Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance and King Fahd launched efforts which earlier Saudi statements said were aimed at a short-term settlement to contain the crisis and a long-term permanent solution to the dispute.

Tension had heightened between the two disputing countries over the past days with accusations from Qatar that Bahrain had based artillery-backed troops and long-range missiles on other disputed islands between the two countries.

The Bahraini press earlier also reported Qatari military reinforcements at Fasht Al Dibal and along the Qatari coast.

The other GCC countries — Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Oman — also joined in behind-the-scenes efforts to contain the dispute which has existed for decades.

The dispute erupted in similar fashion in 1982, when Saudi-led GCC efforts helped freeze it.

Israel obtains U.N. war crimes files plus bonus of 2,000 names

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Israel Monday received from the U.N. War Crimes Commission archives copies of files on 347 people alleged to have been involved in the Nazi extermination of Jews during World War II.

This followed a recent request for a check on whether the archives contained dossiers on any of 1,379 war criminals still being sought by Israel.

"These names include the hierarchy of the exterminating machine set up by the Nazis to annihilate the Jewish people," Israeli U.N. Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu told reporters.

He said the 347 people whose dossiers he obtained were the only ones on Israel's list with corresponding files in the U.N. archives.

But the dossiers also contained the names of an additional 2,000 persons who in most cases were their superiors, colleagues or subordinates, he said.

"I believe that this is an important step in what I hope will be the opening to the general public of the entire archives," he added.

This was indispensable to safeguard the files and to facilitate the "pursuit of justice and truth."

Netanyahu said Israel had been unaware of the size and scope of the U.N. archives, containing the names of some 40,000 alleged war criminals, suspects and witnesses, until he saw them when he recently obtained a dossier on former U.N. secretary general Kurt Waldheim.

Dr. Waldheim, a candidate for the Austrian presidency, has been accused of involvement in atrocities while serving as a German army lieutenant in the Balkans. He denies the charges.

Under current U.N. rules, governments may obtain dossiers only on the basis of specific names.

In response to calls by Israel for the archives to be thrown open, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has requested the views of the 17 governments represented on the U.N. War Crimes Commission, disbanded in 1948.

Netanyahu said the argument that confidentiality was necessary to protect persons who might be innocent no longer made sense.

since a master list containing all the names and summaries of alleged crimes was recently discovered in the United States archives and was therefore in the public domain.

Yitzhak Arad, chairman of Israel's Yad V'Shem memorial to Holocaust victims, told reporters that among those whose files were obtained from the U.N. archives was Oswald Pohl, head of the economy and administration office of the Nazis, responsible for the concentration camps and death camps.

He said he did not know how many of the war criminals were still alive. From the point of view of historical research this did not matter, he added, noting that Yad V'Shem was writing a 25-volume history of the Holocaust.

Asked about the Waldheim case, Arad said: "In our files (at Yad V'Shem), we didn't find any document where the name of Kurt Waldheim is mentioned."

In response to further questions, he said Waldheim "tried to hide his activity during the years 1942-1944."

Turkish prosecutor indicts Libyan consul in Istanbul in bomb plot case

ANKARA (R) — The Libyan consul in Istanbul has been indicted for alleged involvement in a plot to bomb a U.S. officers' club in Ankara, prosecutor Ulku Coskun said Tuesday.

Ali Al Zayyani is accused of aiding persons to form an armed group to commit murder and would face up to seven years' imprisonment if convicted, Mr. Coskun told Reuters.

The trial of Libyans charged earlier is due to resume Wednesday at the Ankara State Security Court.

They include two men said in the original indictment to have been caught with a bag of fragmentation grenades near the club on the night of April 18, three days after the U.S. air raids on Libya.

The two, Ali Al Ejefli Ramadan and Rajab Mubtahi Roboma Tarnuni, have been in custody since then but the other three defendants left Turkey.

Zayyani is believed to be still in the country.

The Turkish foreign ministry announced before hearings began

last week that it had told the court Zayyani and two of the three absent defendants had diplomatic immunity.

But Mr. Coskun said: "We came to the conclusion that diplomatic immunity should be restricted to diplomatic duties and therefore we decided to go ahead and involve (Zayyani)."

Zayyani, number two on Libya's list of diplomats in Turkey, has not commented on an accusation in the original indictment that he gave advice to the two alleged would-be bombers.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Libyan delegation to visit Moscow soon

BEIRUT (R) — A high-level Libyan delegation will visit Moscow in the next few days for talks with Soviet leaders, the official Libyan News Agency JANA reported Tuesday. The agency, monitored in Beirut, said Major Abdul Salam Jaloud, considered Libya's second most influential leader after Colonel Muammar Qadhafi, would head the delegation. The visit follows receipt by Col. Qadhafi of a written message from Kremlin leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, JANA said. Mr. Gorbachev's message was in reply to one sent by Col. Qadhafi following last month's U.S. air attacks on Tripoli and Benghazi.

1 killed, 5 wounded in Armenian church

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Rival groups of worshippers fought with sticks and knives in an Armenian church in occupied Jerusalem Monday, resulting in one person being stabbed to death and five wounded, police said. The violence, involving about 60 Armenians from two factions, apparently erupted over a long-standing conflict between two archbishops for control of the church, located near Jaffa Gate within the old city. The rivalry has recently spread to businesses run by the tiny Armenian community, with each faction trying to ensure that only its followers get jobs, police sources added.

Assad to visit Greece next week

ATHENS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad will make an official visit to Greece from May 26-28, a Greek government spokesman said Monday. He told reporters President Assad would meet Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias. Western diplomats said President Assad, who recently visited Jordan for talks with King Hussein, would brief the Greek government on the current tension between Syria and Israel.

Iranians confiscate large heroin haul

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian police confiscated 107 kilograms of heroin from a six-man gang following an armed clash with the smugglers in the southeastern Iranian city of Zahedan, the Iranian official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Monday. The agency, monitored here, said the drug bust occurred "earlier this week" when a police patrol became suspicious of a pick-up truck and called it to halt. The passengers opened fire with automatic weapons and the patrol car was riddled with bullets. When the fighting intensified, the car was abandoned and the smugglers escaped into the city, IRNA quoted local police officers as saying. It added that a general mobilisation of the security forces in the city led to the arrest of the gang members before they could flee the area. In addition to the drugs, three hand guns, 98 bullets, three automatic assault rifles with magazines and five million rials (\$64,000) were found in the smugglers' pick-up truck, IRNA said.

Abu Dhabi frees 147 prisoners

ABU DHABI (R) — The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has freed 147 prisoners in a Ramadan amnesty, the Emirates News Agency reported Tuesday. It said United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zaid bin Sultan Al Nahayan, in his capacity as ruler of Abu Dhabi, issued a decree ordering the release.

'High radiation levels hit Tunisia'

TUNIS (R) — Radiation levels in Tunisia soared to more than 100 times normal during heavy rains about a week after the April 26 Chernobyl nuclear accident, a Tunisian scientist was quoted as saying Monday. Professor Bechir Turki, a former director of the Centre for Nuclear Studies at Tunis-Carthage, told Le Temps newspaper levels were between 100 and 120 times above normal between May 2-5. Tunisia is some 2,400 kilometres from the stricken Soviet atomic plant. Professor Turki said the levels were not very dangerous and should not cause alarm. But he added they could lead to higher concentrations through biological cycles. "Even at this dosage, the concentration through the intermediary of fish and animals can reach dozens of times above normal," he said. Readings were around 20 per cent above normal in Tunisia in the week after the accident, but climbed during the heavy rainfall, he added.

France denies plans to ransom hostages being held in Lebanon

WASHINGTON (R) — French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond Monday denied a U.S. television report France was negotiating ransom payments to free nine of its citizens held hostage in Lebanon.

CBS television reported earlier France was working on a deal to free the Frenchmen in return for large ransom payments to the extremist pro-Tehran Muslim groups believed to be holding them and for arms supplies to Iran.

"I can deny that categorically," Mr. Raimond told a news conference at the end of a brief visit to Washington, his first since taking office last March.

Mr. Raimond said the hostages — five Americans are also being held in Lebanon — and the subject of international terrorism were among the main topics in his conversations Monday with President Reagan, Vice President George Bush and secretary of state, Mr. George Shultz.

He refused to say what the French government was doing to

win the freedom of its nationals. He said it would be a discreet process conducted in the utmost secrecy and praised the hostages' families for not talking to the press about what the government was doing.

Mr. Raimond said his talks had been confined to the past crisis in U.S.-French relations last month when Paris denied overflight rights to British-based U.S. bombers in a raid on Libya in retaliation for what Washington alleged were Libyan-sponsored acts of terrorism.

But Mr. Raimond said France did not understand why Paris was picked out for particular criticism by an American public which he said did not understand the French position.

The American public did not understand that France was asked for overflight permission for a mission whose specific targets were not explained and for which a date was not given, he said.

French permission would have associated it with an operation

decided unilaterally and without consultation by Washington, he added.

Mr. Raimond also said Americans seemed to be unaware that France had the most direct role in trying to prevent what he called "Libyan expansionism" by helping the government of Chad fight Libyan-backed rebels.

France in 1984 sent thousands of troops to Chad to help halt a southward offensive from the rebels based in northern desert regions bordering on Libya.

But Mr. Raimond said the latest crisis had been resolved in the same fashion as the previous rows between the two countries and relations would continue without further reference to it.

U.S. officials described the atmosphere between the two countries as improved after Mr. Raimond met Mr. Reagan briefly at the White House.

Presidential spokesman, Mr. Larry Speakes, told reporters Mr. Reagan expressed "his feeling for improved Franco-American dialogue" during the courtesy call.

Miscalculation could cause unwanted Israeli-Syrian war

WASHINGTON (R) — Heightened rhetoric and increased tension between Israel and Syria have led Washington to caution against going to war but U.S. officials and other experts believe neither country wants a fight now.

Harsh statements in Damascus and Tel Aviv during the past two weeks led to a flurry of war talk, prompting fears that the two countries could be drawn by miscalculation into a war they did not want.

But public statements by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres have been read in Washington as welcome efforts to reduce the temperature of what U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz last week called a highly tense situation.

From the start, the State Department has said there were no objective reasons to believe that hostilities were imminent.

But in the Middle East, one official noted, "rhetoric has a way of assuming its own reality," and the State Department urged caution to avoid misunderstanding between Syria and Israel.

The war talk was fuelled by Syrian work on fortifications in Lebanon that by themselves did not portend offensive action but which could be used by Israel in parallel with an attack.

"It's hard to see it as an offensive operation," an official said, suggesting Syria was worried about an Israeli attack.

Meanwhile, the Israelis alleged that the Syrians were being behind an effort to put a bomb on board an Israeli airliner at London airport, an accusation strongly denied by Damascus.

Mr. Peres warned Syria on Monday not to back resistance attacks on Israel but welcomed remarks by President Assad indicating that Syria does not want an escalation of tension with Israel.

"This is naturally in approach which is preferable to words which could kindle flames," Peres told the Israeli Knesset.

Experts believe that despite its long record of swift retaliation against alleged guerrilla acts, Israel is not prepared to risk war by mounting an attack on Syrian forces.

"If one wanted to send a message about terrorism, now would not be the best time to do it," Barry Rubin, a fellow of Johns Hopkins University's Foreign Policy Institute, said.

Rubin, like other experts and officials, believe that neither Israel nor Syria is ready to go to war.

"There's no reason today for a war," Judith Kipper of the American Enterprise Institute said. "But that's not to say there couldn't be some accident over Lebanon or some other misunderstanding that might draw them into a conflict."

Arguing against a war started by Syria, Rubin said the Syrian government was facing an economic crisis and could not be sure of how much support it would get from the Soviet Union, its chief arms supplier.

In addition, the threat of war and an Israeli invasion "reminds Arabs that they (the Syrians) are the only state fighting Israel," Kipper said.

Experts also ruled out a war launched by Israel, similarly suffering from severe economic problems, combined with an anti-war mood created by the Israeli experience in Lebanon.

Syria's long military build-up has not yet, reached the stage, where it is near parity with Israel. If there were a war now it would be devastating for the Syrians and they knew it, Kipper said.

Calls for such a strike before Syria can reach military parity and become proficient in its new hardware might increase with the advent of a more hard-line Israeli government headed by the Likud coalition. The Likud is due to take power in October under the leadership of Yitzhak Shamir.

If such a war were to break out, the United States and the Soviet Union could be drawn in as backers of the two Middle East combatants, Kipper warned.

Then, she said, the war could be more dangerous for the superpowers than for Israel and Syria.

French delegation visits U.N. peacekeeping force in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — A two-man French parliamentary delegation left for South Lebanon Tuesday to inspect French U.N. peacekeeping troops after talks in Beirut with Muslim and Christian political leaders.

French embassy sources said the talks with President Amin Gemayel and other leaders centred on ways to promote cooperation between France and Lebanon.

The delegation, led by Mr. Jean-Francois Deniau and including Mr. Andre Bellon, arrived Monday. Muslim political leaders they met in West Beirut included Shiite Amal militia chief, Mr. Nabih Berri, who later told reporters: "We stressed the role that was played and is still being played by Amal in seeking the release of French kidnap victims and its readiness to continue these efforts."

Ten French nationals, believed kidnapped, are missing in Lebanon.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-14

PROGRAMME ONE
15:00 Koran
15:10 Religious programme
15:20 Cartoons
15:30 Cartoons
15:40 Documentary
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Clever cartoons tackle contemporary issues with satirical humour

By Meg Abs Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Opening today at the Goethe Institute is a stimulating and at times highly enjoyable exhibition of satirical caricatures. The 120 cartoons that make up this large and comprehensive show have been executed by 25 contemporary German artists whose criterion for inclusion is that they are presently working either for the daily press or for magazines, illustrated periodicals or publications in the Federal Republic of Germany.

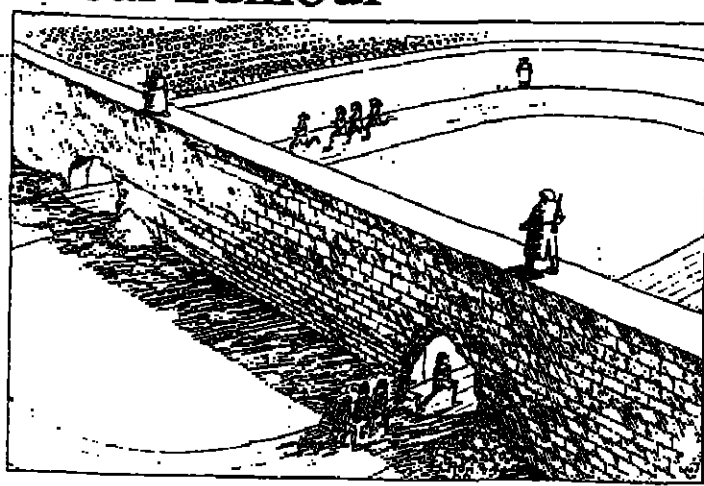
The show therefore gives an accurate idea of the state of things in Germany as they are today and while this might give the idea that the cartoons are based heavily on German political issues it is more true to say that the idea behind the majority of the pieces are universal, ones with which we can all identify.

The show has been divided into six categories, the first of which deals with all aspects of human rights from freedom to disarmament. A particularly good cartoon and one all women will be able to relate to has, surprisingly, been created by a man, Peter Leger. A woman laden with shopping, parcels, a baby in a pram and a toddler helps a man to carry a banner announcing "Men and Women enjoy equal rights."

"Freedom" is a sharp is Marie Marcks clever wall, formed of the letters of the German word for freedom. The first is a rugged old structure, among whose crevices hide a variety of characters, from children to gangsters. An official standing at the side declares the wall to be "A hiding place for crooks. Down with it!" The second wall, the replacement of the first, is a brand new edifice where the spaces are filled with fences and guards.

These cartoons, like all the works and exhibition, are superbly executed — intricate, fluid and above all comical — and they illustrate the point that an idea for a cartoon is just a starting point that must be followed by artistic mastery if it is to succeed in getting across its message.

As Anneliese Schroeder writes in the introduction of the extremely



Inter-German sports (cartoon by Ernst Maria Lang)

readable catalogue that accompanies the exhibition: "It is not the ridiculous or biting theme which makes a cartoon what it is. It is the form, the hand writing, free from routine, which makes it into a work of art that has a chance of outliving the moment and becomes an evergreen."

The second section of show deals with "East-West Relations," which is almost certainly best satirised by Ernst Maria Lang's cartoon of the "Inter German Sports" where the athletes run around a track that passes through the Berlin Wall, guarded as always by soldiers with machine guns. Lang is also very astute when writing about his work. "Politics," he writes, "is for many people, including politicians, something hardly comprehensible. Getting one's information from leading articles and newspaper commentaries is a lot of work and not popular in our leisure intensive society. The political caricature almost removes the necessity of all this work. The satirical drawing shoots through the eye directly to the heart (if it is good)."

Industry and labour
"Parties and Ideologies" is followed by a section on the "World of Industry and Labour" where the future is viewed pessimistically, as in Chlodwig Poth's cartoon of a car making factory, where all the cars are being made by robots operated by a computer. Commenting on the queue of employees waiting to operate the

computer, the manager tells a visitor: "Everybody gets his turn for half an hour. But we can't sack them or who would otherwise buy our cars?"

"The Triumph of Technology" carries on the depressing viewpoint of a world whose natural environment is being quickly destroyed. There's Horst Hatzinger's Noah's ark of the year 2000 — a rocket from whose windows peer two dogs, two cows Then there's Manfred Limoth's cartoon of a wrecked oil tanker, stranded on a beach near a tiny cottage. Two onlookers comment: "Four hundred thousand litres of heating oil free to the door — some people have all the luck."

Gerd Husch has caught the chaos of the skies as you see, like the pilot of the huge aircraft, a mass of airplanes outside the cockpit window flying in all directions. The pilot announces: "I'll change my job and become a taxi driver."

Influence of television
Finally there are several cartoons about the terrible pervasive influence of the television, the best two of which have to be Ivan Steiger's "TV mania I" where a man has hung himself from a tree but not before hanging his TV set next to him so that he can watch it to the last and Manfred Limoth's wicked cartoon where a mother tells her daughter as they follow the hearse "Grandma wasn't alone ... the telly was still on."

Pottery, straw matting — crafts from mankind's earliest days

By Josephine Zananiri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The crafts of pottery and straw weaving have a heritage in Jordan stretching back to the earliest settlements of mankind. Forms and materials altered with time as each civilisation imprinted its own artistic dimension into its water jugs, bowls, woven mats and plaited dishes.

The earliest evidence of straw matting found by archaeologists in the Near East was unearthed at Jericho. Dating from the Neolithic period, around nine thousand years ago, the ancient settlement, although mostly constructed of mud brick, was surrounded by a stone wall. Woven straw mats once graced the simple dwellings and similar straw floor coverings were also unearthed from the later Chalcolithic period.

At Talat Ghassal near the Dead Sea, mud houses dating from around 4500 B.C. were described by Lancaster Harding as, "decorated with bright representations of men, stars, and geometrical motifs." The floors of these houses were covered with straw matting as indicated by the imprints left upon pottery.

Archaeological evidence

Archaeological evidence indi-

cates that straw weaving made an earlier appearance in the Near East than the other ancient craft of pottery. Bowls and dishes generally entered mankind's world towards the end of the Neolithic era around 5000 B.C. Early pottery was made without the aid of a potter's wheel but by the Middle Bronze Age (2100-1500 B.C.) elementary containers, jugs, bowls, dishes etc. had achieved both beauty and precision.

Ancient Jordan's most exquisite works were undoubtedly made by the Nabataeans. Their bowls and dishes were of "fineness and thinness only equalled by porcelain," writes Lancaster Harding. Nabataean pottery is characterised by the delicate black or brown decorations marking the inner surface. Oddly, some of the large urns or pots made locally today incorporate a crude form of this feather design, used so long ago by antiquity's finest potters.

In the Near East, as in other parts of the world, pottery has been an invaluable accompaniment to village life. Although a male dominated craft nowadays, originally experts believe the housewife prepared her own earthenware pots, dishes and storage containers. The range of goods produced was quite extensive and all bear a form resemblance to Roman, Byzantine

and Ottoman pots found in Jordan. Oil and water containers typically had large bulbous bottoms and sometimes pointed, narrow tops.

Water containers

Water containers used for drinking purposes had a spout and small handle on the top of the bowl section. Water pots were left unglazed as the porous earthenware absorbs water which evaporates on the outer surface cooling the water inside. Containers for dry goods had considerably wider necks and often were of a much larger size. The Amman Museum has some excellent specimens including a reconstructed pot with a circumference of over one metre.

Bedouins may have purchased some of their utensils from village potters, however they rarely used large earthenware containers as they were both too bulky and highly breakable. Substitutes were readily available; fluids were carried in leather bags, often decorated with bright simple paintings outlined with shells. A strap was attached to the bag (which was made from goat's or sheep's intestine or skin) and thus it became easily portable. Woven straw baskets, being unbreakable, were ideal transporters for other goods and occasionally wooden containers were used for coffee — the focal point of bedouin hospitality. Saudi examples of such cylinders are decorated with small metal studs and include a metal hook on the pointed lid.

Multipurpose straw mats

Both peasant and bedouin women used woven straw mats for different tasks. In its most elementary form — the round flat disc — straw mats are used for drying herbs. Some of the older examples are magnificently woven, straw was brightly dyed in red, yellow and brown and intricate amulets are woven into each segment. Sadly, neither the colour nor decorative elements of the past are included in today's largely functional designs.

A wide variety of bowls were also made and used for many different purposes such as carrying fruit and vegetables from the fields to the house, fetching bread freshly cooked from the village oven or storing household goods. One of the quaintest and most unusual of peasant inventions are little square boxes with triangular roofs, softly padded with material scraps and decorated with tassels. The purpose of such boxes, suspended from the ceiling, was to hold cottons and needles.

Straw matting was also woven

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Hassan meets UNICEF director

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday conferred with Mr. Richard Reid, the new regional director of the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF). Mr. Reid, who succeeded Mr. Victor Soler Sala in his post, is in charge of UNICEF's operations in the Middle East and North Africa. Mr. Sala has been transferred to UNICEF's European desk in Geneva.

JSPRA president thanks Crown Prince

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has received a cable from the president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA) expressing his appreciation to Prince Hassan for patronising a symposium on the prevention of road accidents which was held on May 7. "Your support for the symposium was instrumental in its eventual success," the cable said.

Assad sends circular to colleges

AMMAN (Petra) — Community colleges in Jordan have been instructed by Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad to hold graduation ceremonies within the college's premises. A circular distributed to colleges around the country said that graduation ceremonies should only be attended by students and the college's staff or board of trustees with the aim of saving time, effort and expenses.

Bank supports vaccination centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Housing Bank's board of directors has approved a JD 100,000 cash donation for the Ministry of Health to be used for establishing a new vaccination department, according to a report carried by the local Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i on Tuesday. The report said that the Housing Bank decided to make the donation in appreciation for the ministry's efforts in the field of health services. The ministry's planning committee earlier approved initial plans for setting up of a new building to accommodate the vaccination department to replace the current centre situated at the government-owned Al Bashir hospital in Ashrafieh.

Madaba sprays vegetation in the city

MADABA (Petra) — Madaba Municipality is now undertaking a campaign to spray vegetation in all parts of the city with insecticides. A municipality spokesman said that the city has been divided into five parts to facilitate the campaign, which is conducted every summer.

Produce import, export figures released

AMMAN (Petra) — The total amount of exported fruit and vegetables for last Tuesday were as follows in tonnes: tomatoes 1074, aubergines 91, lettuce 52, sweet paprika 90, marrow 41, cucumbers 138, cauliflower 49, cabbage 226, green beans 24, potatoes 22, dry onion 12, oranges 416, lemons 13, grapefruit 4, corn 3, water melon 124, sweet melon 94. The amounts (in tonnes) of fruit and vegetables imported on the same day were: carrots 9, dry garlic 10, zatar 1, apples 41 and prunes 45.

RSS continuing tests on imported meat

One per cent of meat from E. Europe found to be contaminated by radiation, spokesman says

AMMAN (J.T.) — One per cent of the total meat imported from Eastern Europe has been found to contain unacceptable levels of radiation and this meat was returned to its original source, the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) announced Tuesday.

According to the announcement by Hassan Al Khadra, the director of the RSS's Mechanical Engineering Department, all the tests were conducted at his department by specialists. Mr. Khadra went on to say that testing was continuing. Out of 44,120 head of cattle and sheep imported through the Ministry of Supply, 421 have been found to contain unacceptable levels of radiation, Mr. Khadra said. He continued that the testing was conducted between May 11 and May 20, following the accident at the nuclear reactor of Chernobyl in the Soviet Union.

He said that the 421 head that were returned had arrived in one single shipment and had been tested on the spot. Testing is conducted by the RSS in full cooperation and coordination with the Ministry of Supply, Mr. Khadra added. He said that not a single head of stock can reach the market if it is found to be contaminated or unfit for human consumption.

On Sunday Minister of Industry and Trade and Supply Rajai Mueasher announced the destruction of a part of a consignment of meat that arrived in Jordan and which had been imported by the Ministry of Supply. He said that the consignment of 2,000 head of sheep, arriving from Romania, were found to contain 350 carcasses with an unacceptable level of radiation. The 350 head of sheep were destroyed and the rest of the shipment was sent back to Romania, the minister said.

He also revealed that the government had requested Eastern European exporters of meat and food supplies to send certificates that the shipments were free of any contamination. The government also issued an order banning imports of meat from a slaughterhouse in northern Romania and centres not far away from the Chernobyl plant which sell honey.

milk, cheese and other dairy products. The Ministry of Supply has decided to close down 57 centres which sell fresh, imported meat because they were found to have been selling frozen meat in place of fresh meat for the same price, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper on Tuesday. The report said that the closure will remain in force for one month.

The ministry had earlier warned butchers and centres which sell meat imported through the ministry not to violate ministry regulations concerning the sale of meat and said it would take strict measures against violators. Measures that could be taken, the report said, include withdrawal of the centre's licence, permanent closure of centres or fines and a trial by a military court. According to the report, the 57 centres were located in Amman and its suburbs and it added that other centres have closed for similar violations in other parts of the country.

Jordan imports fresh meat from Bulgaria, Turkey and Romania and frozen meat from New Zealand and Australia.

United Arab stand is only way — Crown Prince

(Continued from page 1)

forging solidarity lies with development. Jordan, he said, has never spared any effort for achieving that goal. Jordan has always called for neutralising joint Arab economic action from politics and from the vicious circle of political differences among Arab countries, Prince Hassan added. He said that through development the Arabs can forge unity, provided

the projects they carry out are designed to achieve true integration.

Prince Hassan called for on the Arabs to benefit from the experiment of the European Community (EC) which had created a special ideology from economic and trade cooperation and achieved real progress despite past political hostilities and disputes.

Reagan may change details of Saudi arms deal

(Continued from page 1)

"We do not have the votes now, and it is a long haul and a lot of convincing needs to be done in order to get these votes," presidential spokesman Larry Speakes said Monday. "We have made some progress and we have narrowed the gap, but much more needs to be done."

Mr. Dole, after conferring with Mr. Reagan at the White House on Monday, said, "I think there's

still some work to be done." He indicated the matter will not be considered until after Congress returns from its Memorial Day recess June 2.

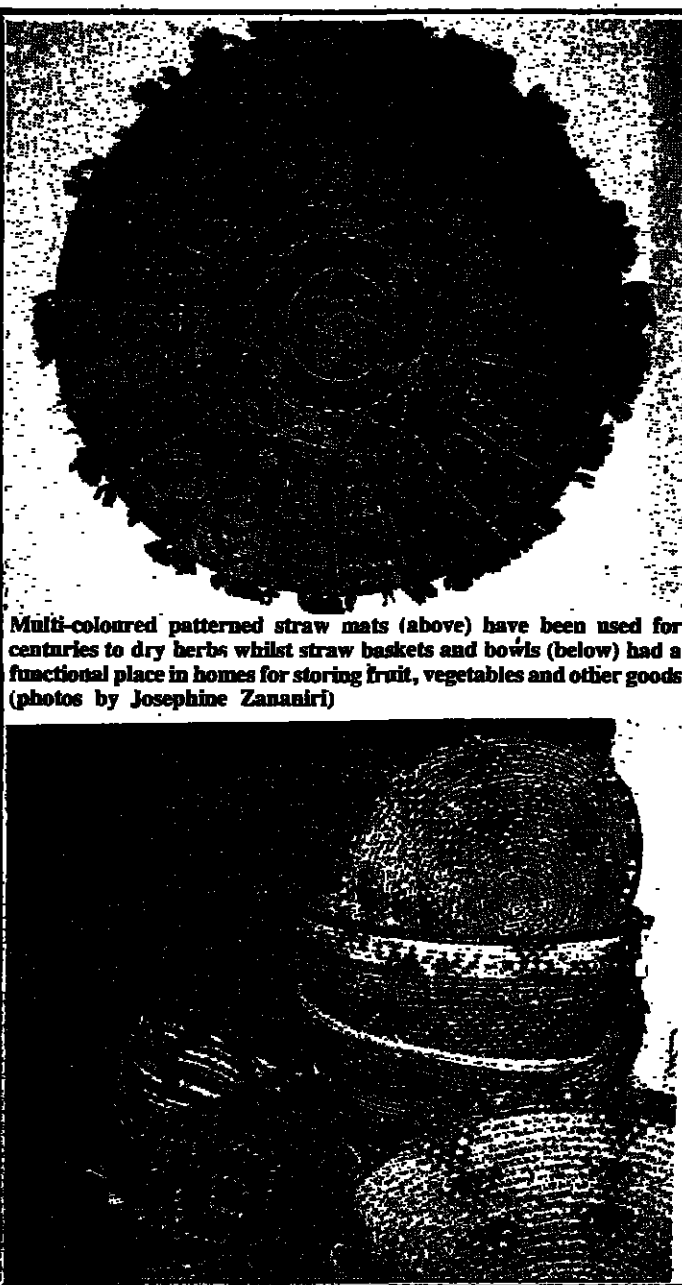
Mr. Dole tried to be optimistic Tuesday about the administration's progress, saying he thought there were some votes being switched, but he did not give details.

As for modifying the package, Mr. Dole said the administration

could dispel some legislators' concerns by dropping the Stingers.

Mr. Reagan was to meet in late afternoon with about 12 Jewish leaders to explain why the administration believes it is essential to sell weapons to Saudi Arabia.

Supporters of the sale say it would get an important boost if Jewish leaders signalled that they would not retaliate politically against lawmakers voting for the package.



Multi-coloured patterned straw mats (above) have been used for centuries to dry herbs whilst straw baskets and bowls (below) had a functional place in homes for storing fruit, vegetables and other goods (photos by Josephine Zananiri)



Old earthenware pots with their traditional earthy colours (photo by Josephine Zananiri)

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When the dust has settled

IT is now undeniable that nuclear power has become a cheap and growing source of the world's energy. It has almost replaced oil as a key source of electricity in many countries in the West. The European Community taps a third of its electricity from nuclear plants; France about 65 per cent, and Britain, 18 per cent. All those countries, both in the West and East, having access to nuclear technology, are striving to build nuclear reactors with the prospect that they would have to increasingly depend on nuclear power for their future energy needs. Hence, it is almost difficult, if not impossible, to reverse the nuclear clock and all indications point to an accelerated momentum by the year 2000.

Nuclear accidents do not constitute sufficient reason for the industrialised nations to abjure the use of nuclear technology and energy. If they would, reliance on nuclear power should have been given up long ago when disastrous nuclear accidents happened at Chalk River (Canada, 1952), Windscale (U.K., 1957), St. Laurent (France, 1966), The Three Mile Island (U.S., 1979) and a host of other places in the U.S. and Japan.

The recent nuclear accident at Chernobyl attracted worldwide attention because of its extensive radioactive fallout in Europe. Even then, the protagonists of nuclear power were quick to point out that the Chernobyl accident was more due to obsolete Soviet technology in the construction of the reactor than any danger inherent in having a nuclear reactor for whatever purpose. For, well they know that there are no absolute, foolproof safeguards against nuclear accidents. They cannot be ruled out as a risk factor in the construction and maintenance of nuclear reactors, whether it be for military or for civilian purposes. Nobody, except a few groups of ecologists in Europe, argued and demonstrated against continuing to put faith in nuclear power. And it seems highly unlikely that groups opposed to nuclear power would draw much support from people at large right now.

When the nuclear fallout has somewhat settled and after a studied silence, the Soviet leader Mr. Gorbachev came out with a sombre proposal. He did not outrightly rule out nuclear power. But he suggested "creating an international regime of safe development of nuclear power on the basis of close cooperation of all nations dealing with nuclear power engineering."

"A system of prompt warning and supply of information in the event of accidents and faults at nuclear power stations should be established in the framework of this regime," said Mr. Gorbachev.

Whether or not the other nuclear powers would agree to this proposal is a crucial question. Besides, ganging up with other nuclear powers may begot sympathy and solace in times of travail; but how does it solve the problem of nuclear accidents of the magnitude of Chernobyl that has unleashed irreparable damages on innocent people and the environment?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: South Africa attacks neighbours

THE Pretoria regime, copying the example of Israel's strategy has launched an aggression on three neighbouring African states in yet another show of total disregard to international principles and violation of all laws and norms. Like Israel, the racist regime has attacked freedom fighters in Africa in line with the racial discrimination policies set by the leaders in Pretoria and in further demonstration of hatred towards the indigenous people of the black continent. The South African whites have been following the same tactics and the same techniques in fighting the Africans as those adopted by Israel against the Palestinian people who are striving to regain their land and their rights. Both Pretoria and Tel Aviv are being supported in their sinister plans by Western countries who have been helping in the process of spreading intimidation and terrorism. Israel has been exercising organised terrorism against the people of Palestine and against their refugee camps, schools, factories and other interests. Rarely a day passes without reports about Israel detaining Palestinians, deporting others or demolishing homes here and there in reprisal of resistance activity. Pretoria has been likewise carrying out arbitrary actions against the blacks who have been sacrificing their souls for independence.

Al Dustour: Jordan rallies for summit

IT is not clear yet whether the Arab foreign ministers will meet as agreed at the end of Ramadan to discuss holding an Arab summit meeting. We can say that because no real effort is being taken at the moment for such a meeting though the end of Ramadan is now in sight. What is more disappointing is a statement by King Hassan II of Morocco in which he said that the upcoming summit will be held whether all or some of the Arab leaders attended. At present there is no real effort on the part of the Arab League to pave the way for the summit and there is no endeavour for ending inter-Arab differences and disputes to make way for a successful meeting. The Arab countries are at present more than at any time in the past in need of solidarity and cooperation because they are continually confronting numerous challenges and dangers. The only beam of hope which is emerging at the moment is represented in Jordan's single handed effort for mobilising Arab countries and rallying them for the common cause. Jordan has been building bridges among Arab states with different views and stands and has been trying to end differences that hampered Arab joint action.

Sawt Al Shaab: Irbid appreciates King's decision

THE people of Irbid have voiced their deep appreciation to King Hussein for reopening Yarmouk University and helping to overcome all the traces of the disturbances of the past week. Their appreciation and gratitude represent a true cohesion between the ruler and the people along the march of construction and progress. King Hussein has shown keenness on reestablishing stability and security and also on providing the youth with education, the means with which they can face their future. By ordering the release of the students and the settlement of their issue King Hussein has wanted to recreate the normal convenient atmosphere for the country's continued development and progress.

Out of Africa: Development and underdevelopment

By Riad Khouri

THE Third World is not a homogeneous place. Encompassing the extremely rich of Kuwait and the very poor of Bangladesh, the underdeveloped countries have rapidly been dividing themselves into groups of varying degrees of growth and progress. Whereas the trends uniting the Third World continue to operate politically, centrifugal forces have led to big economic and social gaps between developing states. And, in the words of Soviet writer Viktor Sheinis, "there is every ground for assuming that the significance of these differences in the 1980's, as in the past decades, will continue to grow."

Sheinis and many others (Marxist and non-Marxist alike) have been for some time now classifying developing countries into groups according to various criteria. But there is nothing like a consensus on how the 125 plus underdeveloped states should be categorised. After all, "underdevelopment" and related terms are nebulous; one doesn't need a graduate degree in economics to tell that Singapore and Soweto or Amman and Ajman are "developing" in totally different ways and at completely different levels. Then again, they're all part of the Third World.

The upper echelon of the Third World is remote from most of the countries classified as under-

developed. According to Sheinis, "the capitalist-oriented countries of this echelon are approaching in one way or another the states of developed capitalism." All these states are characterised by a relatively high per capita income which reflects an appreciable development of productive forces and the possession of unique natural resources which allow them a privileged position in the international division of labour. But even this top echelon consists of quite dissimilar groups.

The first comprises the advanced states of Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela and others) as well as Western-oriented states in the Middle and Far East (Cyprus, Hong Kong, Lebanon and Singapore). The common denominator of this outwardly mixed bag is the path of their socio-economic and cultural development which reproduces in one form or another the experience of Europe. But such traits of underdevelopment as the predominance of pre-industrial forms of labour in agriculture, a low level of scientific development and the extreme poverty of parts of the population classify these countries as underdeveloped. The second group is made up of a dozen or so oil exporters characterised by high per capita incomes. These states have exceptionally good dev-

elopment potential, although their social structures are still quite primitive. Unlike the first group, development is proceeding along lines not necessarily Western-oriented and so it's difficult to tell what form their economies will take. Finally, the upper crust of the Third World includes a collection of mini-states such as Barbados and Bermuda where prosperity is spread over a small number of people on a tiny piece of land.

These highly diverse countries have a chance in the foreseeable future to break out of the Third World and turn into more or less stable and permanently prosperous economies. But the remaining developing states still have a long way to go to get to this point. Of course some are better off than others: South Korea, for example is poised to move up to the top echelon of the underdeveloped countries, while the ultra-poor Africa look like remaining at the bottom of the heap for an unlimited period. Just as there was talk in the 60's of the gap between the developed and developing states, a new divide is opening up between the affluent and the hopeless in the Third World. And Africa seems to lie on the wrong side of this chasm.

Sub-Saharan Africa is in a mess. (The Maghreb, Nile Valley and Red Sea littoral belong to the

Middle East or Mediterranean areas and their socio-economic and other problems tend to be different from and generally milder than those of their less fortunate southern neighbours.) With the possible exception of Gabon, which is probably going into a tailspin anyway because of falling oil prices, not one African country belongs to the group of 35 or so at the top of the development league. A few such as the Ivory Coast are far from being wretchedly poor, but even this fortunate small minority is still immeasurably away from achieving developed status. (Of course South Africa is something of an advanced economic powerhouse, but it's only part of Africa. The non-white majority of South Africa definitely belongs to the Third World.)

Take the case of Kenya, touted in the 70's as a rapidly developing state. A population explosion and hectic urbanisation have hit employment and living standards very badly. If things go on this way, it is estimated that 40 per cent of the country's labour force will be unemployed by the end of the century, at which time population will have increased 75 per cent from its present levels. And the situation is not too different in other countries south of the Sahara. Gambia, Senegal, the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, and Gabon are among many which have had an incredibly high ave-

rage annual population growth of over 3 per cent for the past twenty-five years. With the exception of a handful of states with low populations such as Burundi and Mauritius, the majority "moderate" population-growth states of Africa have averaged between 2 and 3 per cent annual population increase since 1960. This is still high even by Third World standards, and is often responsible for aborting growth and development.

What future do these countries have? The Sahel drought of the past few years has merely dramatised their plight; the simple fact is that adverse climatic conditions are liable to occur anywhere, but only in the African context do they threaten the existence of whole states and societies. It's estimated that Africa will need investment of more than \$128 billion to pull out of its crisis by the end of the decade. Around two-thirds of this may be raised locally, but that still means a lot of capital will have to be injected into the continent very quickly.

And this is where the Middle East might come into the picture. Our region and sub-Saharan Africa are directly related by history, geography, religion and a lot of other factors. Most important of all, we're related in underdevelopment. But our variety of

backwardness seems to be a bit less harrowing. And backward or not, the Middle East as a whole still disposes of vast surpluses which could be invested. Naturally, any investor wants to get his money back with healthy profits if possible. Disaster-stricken parts of Africa are obviously no place for ordinary kinds of capital. Relief aid is still the major requirement in parts of Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, the Sudan and a few other places where 18 million people still suffer from very severe malnutrition. But the Middle East states haven't done enough to help. Coming into drought-stricken regions with emergency aid and expertise is a good prelude to investment in Africa, especially in the absolutely vital field of agriculture. (The Israelis, of course, are already there.)

The alternative to Africa getting on its feet is a series of crises and disasters which will impinge on the Middle East before anywhere else. So it isn't just from the humanitarian or business points of view that we should be active in Africa; the health and wealth of areas south of the Sahara will have a direct bearing on our region. Instability is what the Middle East doesn't need, but without security and prosperity in say, Sudan and among its neighbours, peace and quiet for the rest of us will be that much more difficult.

Israel's uprooting of Palestinians; step 3, futurelessness

The following is the last part of an article on the Israeli policy of expropriating the occupied Arab territories of its Palestinian population. The writer, Dr. Jan Abu Shakra, is a Jerusalem-based sociologist affiliated with the Arab studies society and author of a book entitled *Settler Violence in the Occupied Territories: 1980-1984*. This article is reprinted from the *Link* magazine which is published by the New York-based *Americans for Middle East Understanding*. Part one and two appeared on Monday's and Tuesday's issues of the *Jordan Times*.

The Final Step: Futurelessness

According to Victor Frankl, the most depressing influence in his concentration camp internment was not knowing how long the imprisonment would be. The end, whether through death by gassing, liberation by allied forces, or other means, was uncertain, and it appeared that no actions by the interned — other than suicide — could alter this "provisional existence."

Parallels with an occupation of almost decades, with no political solution in sight, are obvious, as are the varied responses of the interned and the occupied.

One common response is bitterness and desire for revenge, which can sustain one for a limited time. Eventually it gives way to spontaneous, explosive and often suicidally desperate act, or to bitterness, then apathy and cynicism.

By far the more common response under occupation is the latter. Despite Israeli obsession with the "internal security threat" and the fear of random "terrorist attacks," there is a strikingly low level of violent resistance, whether spontaneous or organised, in the West Bank or Gaza Strip. Even during periods when Israelis perceive Palestinian resistance as very high, statistics indicate that Palestinians are more often the targets rather than perpetrators of violence in the occupied territories.

The relative passivity of the population under occupation is largely the result of Israeli military strength, and a policy of extensive military and security controls which limit access to arms and opportunity for effective attack.

Even more effective has been Israeli social and economic policy that has stifled opportunity for individual fulfilment and economic independence, while offering relative consumptive prosperity and comfort for those willing to cooperate with the occupation or to exploit their own people.

While it appears that life under occupation, with all its problems, offers greater freedom than imprisonment, avoidance of dehumanisation and options for preserving one's humanity in fact pose greater difficulties. Particularly enlightening are accounts by released prisoners contrasting their prison experience with life on the outside.

Palestinian political prisoners universally refer to Israeli prisons as their universities. On the one hand, prisoners engage in concerted efforts at self-education by utilizing the skills and experiences of their fellow inmates and by making the few books and journals to which they have access. Their common situation, forced proximity and limited resources provide the perfect setting for the emergence of collective goals, social support and a united front against the authorities. The new prisoner enters an established social support system, complete with heroic role models.

The strategy of the political prisoners vis-a-vis the authorities is quite instructive. The first demands is for the recognition of Palestinian identity, which is signalled by their demand for separation from criminal prisoners, in recognition of their status as political prisoners. This separation,

from time to time violated by the authorities, is the most prized achievement of the prisoners' campaigns.

Another way in which the Palestinian identity is asserted is by the simple insistence on the use of that label, as opposed to "Arab" or any other substitute. Over the years, Palestinian political prisoners eventually established the right to negotiate with the authorities through their chosen representatives. Only after this Palestinian identity and united national front was established, did the prisoners pursue demands for humane treatment, proper medical care, improvement of physical conditions, food, and so on.

In a sense, the demands of Palestinian prisoners are the reverse of Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs, and with good reason. When the prisoner authority's (or occupier's) tactic is to cut off opportunity for independent, individual advancement and fulfilment as a way of forcing dependence and control, the only response which preserves and strengthens one's personhood is to reject individualist options and to choose identification with and fulfilment through the collective. Above all, the point is to choose, and never to surrender or obey without reflection.

The choice for those outside prison but under occupation is basically the same, but particular features of the occupation make it more difficult, the consequences less clear.

Released prisoners often experience a kind of vertigo on their release. The major task is to adjust to the loss of the supportive social structure and sense of intimate solidarity they experienced in prison. Certain occupation policies are specifically designed to destroy coherent social structure and supports. All political activity is prohibited. Often, even funerals and wedding parties are banned. Most of the municipal authorities elected in the last election permitted by the authorities in 1976 have been deposed. Leaders of labour unions, voluntary work committees, student councils and other media for joint action are particularly subject to official harassment, restriction orders, and most recently, administrative detention and deportation.

But more than that, released prisoners confront the apathy and individualism, the selling of individual privilege, the betrayal of one's people for individual gain — all the evils they had successfully fought against and triumphed over in prison. And there is another option of escape not available in prison — emigration from the homeland in search of wealth or other individual advancement.

One response, particularly common among young people, is withdrawal into purely theoretical, "revolutionary" discussion, with no action component. Any action, in their eyes, involves a compromise they are not ready to make. Perhaps too there is the realisation that concrete action cannot do much to change the reality of occupation. The uprooted trees of Qataneh, the lost court battles to save the land, the deportations, the demolished homes all stand as stark reminders that any effort by the occupied can and will be quickly

crushed by the occupier. So why should they make the effort?

One recently released prisoner provides the answer in her simple yet inspiring example of the importance of persistent action.

She and the other female political prisoners in Neve Tertz embroidered patterns on their blankets and pillow-cases, and made simple decorations for their walls. Every month, the prison guards unpicked their work, and to every month, the women would embroider new patterns. So it continued, month after month. The prisoners didn't succeed in keeping their handwork, but the authorities were defeated in their attempt to break the women's spirits.

Together with this are individual acts of a heroic nature. The hunger strike is a classic, for it represents a different value, that, in the name of the unity and dignity of my people, I am willing to sacrifice my health and possibly my life. The food you offer me is given by a hand that wants to control me. I reject that hand and the gifts of that hand.

On the outside, boycott of Israeli products is analogous. Israeli economic policy, designed to thwart independent Palestinian economic development and to establish an unfair advantage for Israeli industrial and agricultural products, creates attractive market conditions for the more plentiful, cheaper Israeli products. The short-term advantage of consuming these products manifests Palestinian acquiescence to their own exploitation as cheap day workers in Israeli industry and a captive consumer market.

Other forms of non-cooperation are more problematic. Refusal to carry the identity card, for example, effectively restricts one's mobility and leaves one open to harassment and probable imprisonment. Seemingly innocuous acts — reading a banned book, knitting a sweater in the four colours of the Palestinian flag, staying overnight with friends in Jerusalem, planting an unauthorised olive tree — are all criminal offenses under occupation law which could, and often do, result in years of imprisonment.

Violating such military orders, however, serves two significant purposes. The first is the assertion of identity, of defiance, or refusal to cooperate for the benefit of the occupier, for whom even the mention of the word "Palestinian" is a provocation. Equally important is the psychological effect on the Palestinian. As one Palestinian, under town arrest for an extended period, said:

Now and then, I violate my order — by taking a ride outside the city limits or getting home a few minutes after the appointed evening hour. I don't act stupidly or blatantly, because I don't want to give them an excuse to impose further restrictions on me. But I will not become an Israeli security agent. To preserve my integrity, I will challenge the spirit of the orders, which they can only impose by the exercise of brute force.

Under occupation, almost any action may be considered a potential security offense. The targets of the recent wave of administrative detentions and deportations suggest, in fact, that violent or military operations do not pose the greatest "security threat" in the eyes of the Israeli authorities. Almost half of the administrative detainees are students or university lecturers, including most of the elected student council members. Approximately one-quarter of the detainees and deportees are union leaders. Other targeted categories are jour-

nalists, professionals and book-store owners. Since administrative detention entails no formal charges and evidence presented against the detainee and a potential deportee is "secret," one cannot determine the precise reasons for orders against such people. In their communities, they are known as those who are working to build local institutions in order to establish a sense of community. Their lives are dedicated not to personal gain, but to meeting the needs of their people, through voluntary work committees, unions, schools and charitable societies.

If the goal of an occupier is to dehumanise the occupied, then such work is indeed the greatest threat to the regime. Dehumanisation and the dehumanisers.

Public opinion polls and studies of youth attitudes indicate that the campaign "to control" and "dehumanise" the Palestinians is taking its toll on Israeli society. Attitudes toward the Palestinians are worrisome in themselves. Nearly 60 per cent of the Jewish public believe that Palestinians in the occupied territories should either be deported (15 per cent) or live under an apartheid rule without rights (44 per cent). Even inside the Green Line, a high percentage of Israelis have long held that the rights of "non-Jewish" citizens should be limited. A recent study of secondary school students revealed, in fact, that more than 50 per cent of the Jewish students felt that Arab citizens should be denied voting rights, free speech and university education.

The extent of moral degradation reveals itself most clearly in the weakness and inconsistency of the current campaign which developed largely in response to the election of Meir Kahane's Kach list to the Knesset. Opponents who deplore Kahane and his methods and decry racist slurs and incitement do not seem as concerned with the ongoing discriminatory practices which pervade Israeli life.

Ultimately it is the Israelis who will suffer most from their attempt to control, distort or annihilate (figuratively or actually) the Palestinian people. Historian Shlomo Ben-Ami notes that states that have dominated a large national minority have a common denominator: "if they were democracies at the outset, sooner or later they cease to be so." Already, there are disturbing signs of a growing disillusionment with democratic institutions within the state in general. Those bent on depriving the Palestinians of democratic rights also show a high degree of willingness to dispense with such rights for Israelis as well. Despite the great sensitivity of the label, a growing number of Israeli critics are openly discussing fascist trends in their own society.

Today, a powerful, armed and controlling Israeli state has less to fear from the physical violence of the occupied than they do from spiritual violence they are inflicting on themselves. The future: Hoping against hope.

For Americans who are not already committed to one side or the other, through religious, familial or political loyalties, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict must appear as one senseless fight which somehow could be resolved if the sides would just sit down and talk (the preferred solution of educated liberals) or if a strong leader or superpower would imp-

ose order (the preferred scenario of the more authoritarian).

As an American citizen now living in the heart of this conflict, I make no claim to impartiality. The struggle of my Palestinian husband, and what I assume will be the struggle of my two Palestinian sons, has become mine. I believe that only a political solution which guarantees Palestinian national rights to self-determination and government in their homeland can bring an end to the political and physical violence. Reversing the dehumanisation process involves, ultimately, the land.

Those who focus on the diplomatic level of the conflict, whether Israelis, Arabs, Americans or other concerned parties, have apparently concluded that time is running out. The extension of Israeli control over the people and land of historic Palestine is seen as "irreversible," the PLO is finished, the "peace process" stalemated, Israeli dominance unassailable. Palestinians, under whatever "leadership" willing to capitulate, must acknowledge Israel's right to exist and take in return the "limited autonomy" and "self-expression" it offers. Dialogue and reconciliation will heal the wounds of decades. Peace will reign in the Middle East.

One who lives in the heart of this conflict cannot counter such arguments with optimistic alternative scenarios. Realistic prospects for the realisation of Palestinian self-determination — in an independent state, on an equitable share of the land with an Israeli state, in a relation of non-domination and harmony — are dim indeed.

One can, nevertheless, counter the time-clock argument in favour of surrender of basic Palestinian human and national rights with

the firm assertion that such capitulation would be no solution at all. If it is a human, livable future, for both Israelis and Palestinians, that is sought, then the bankruptcy of the diplomatic option at the present time cannot be used as a measure of success or failure.

Nor can dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians under the terms of occupation be considered a panacea. As Freire rightly perceived:

Dialogue is the encounter between men, mediated by the world, in order to name the world. Hence, dialogue cannot occur between those who want to name the world and those who do not wish this naming — between those who deny other men the right to speak their word and those whose right to speak has been denied them. Those who have been denied their primordial right to speak their word must first reclaim this right and prevent the continuation of this dehumanising aggression.

The only genuine dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians today is joint action to end the occupation. Like the women prisoners who persist with their embroidery, a small but loyal number of Israelis have rejected the occupier role.

There is no question that Palestinians under occupation are discouraged. But they are not defeated. If their humanisation is subversion, then they will continue to subvert the occupation. They — the Jabril Rubjubs, the Al Jib and Bidya farmers, the Um Nidals, the Um Hasans and Hasan's children — will stay on the land. They will not surrender their dignity. As long as they stay, as long as they resist, there is hope — hope, not only for themselves and their children, but for the Israelis as well.

LETTERS

Voluntary, not competitive

To the Editor:

I WOULD like to comment on a Petra report carried in the Jordan Times issue of May 19, concerning the Crown Prince's Award ceremony at the International Baccalaureate School. The report described the Award Scheme as a "competition" and "contest" and the awards as "prizes." In fact nothing could be further from the truth; one of the particular features of the scheme is that it is totally non-competitive. Each participant joins the scheme voluntarily and is expected to take an active part in a number of activities; they must carry out some community service, they must take part in a sport, have a skill or hobby and do an expedition. Thus a "typical" Bronze Award holder may have done six months of photography, at least six weeks of Tae Kwan-do, spent many of their weekends at a home for the physically handicapped, taken a first-aid course and spent a week living in a tent learning about map reading and hiking.

The only criteria which are used in assessing the participants are whether they have worked to the best of their ability and made a significant improvement. Usually the Bronze Award will take at least a year and is open to young people over 14 years old. Silver at least a further year and Gold yet another year. Each level requires a greater commitment from the participants, the maximum age for entry is 23 years old.

Thus young people who have carried out the scheme are only challenging themselves. If they persevere the "reward" is recognition in the form of a certificate and a badge. It was these that HRH Crown Prince Hassan was presenting at the ceremony. The scheme has only been in operation for two years yet 204 young people received their Bronze and 10 their Silver awards. It is a national Jordanian scheme and not confined to any one school, indeed it should not be confined to schools at all; universities will be involved as well as any institutions with young people. At present the vast majority of the Award holders are from government schools. The scheme is still expanding and will see the first Gold candidates next year.

The International Award scheme is in operation in over 40 countries but Jordan's is the first in the Middle East, we are the co-ordinating centre for the whole area. Our hope is that the scheme will provide one way in which young people can develop self reliance and become active and useful members of Jordanian society.

Brian Mandley,
IBS,
Amman.

كنا من الاجال

Sudan's economy on the hoof

By John Tanner

There are twice as many herd animals as people in Sudan. Are they contributing to the disastrous spread of desert, or are they Sudan's best hope for economic expansion? Critics and supporters of the country's growing livestock industry remain at odds.

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Sudan, which suffered more than most from Africa's recent droughts, is still poised on the borderline of mass hunger. Sudan also has over twice as many cattle, goats, sheep and camels (55 million) as people. How are these two facts related? Supporters of the country's expanding livestock industry claim that Sudan's Livestock and Meat Marketing Corporation (LMMC) is a much needed success story for both nomadic herders and for consumers. Critics charge that the doubling of the number of livestock in the last 20 years has accelerated the spread of deserts in Sudan.

"Governments often forget about the traditional sector, but not in this case," says LMMC chairman, Dr. Osman Abdullah Bahari. "During the famine, before the people were reached by the aid agencies, we were able to move grain supplies to the Nyala area (in the far west) and bring back animals in exchange," he added.

Nick Cater, author of a recent Oxford study about Sudan, is not convinced. "There are too many animals in Sudan," he says, "and the present system of animal husbandry just isn't sustainable. People die as a result."

Dr. Bahari disagrees. "Had it not been for the LMMC, the impact of the 1985 drought would have been much worse," he says. He believes it is only a coincidence

that the rise in LMMC activity has occurred at the same time as major environmental changes have affected Sudan.

What is certain is that Sudan has a large population of nomadic herders whose livestock is their only means of entry into the money economy. To reduce the size of their herds would diminish their only source of cash — and their access to the things which money can buy. To force them into some other form of employment would destroy a proud and ancient way of life.

Perhaps the more important question is whether the herders' traditional way of doing things can be successfully adapted to meet present conditions, where overpopulation, overgrazing, deforestation, fragile soils and drought must all be dealt with.

The LMMC is trying to balance ancient traditions and modern realities. It is helped by the fact that Sudan's livestock sector is one of the few bright spots on an otherwise dismal economic horizon. One study found that between 1980 and 1983 net foreign exchange earnings for livestock (\$170 million per year) were treble those for cotton, long considered Sudan's principal export.

The LMMC has set up a series of feed lots to which herders bring their livestock for fattening. The feedlots are located up to 800 kilometres from the places where the

herds are reared in the arid provinces of Darfur and Kordofan.

At the LMMC markets, which are located from Nyala in the west to Khartoum, the capital, the herders' animals are sold. Some are bought by merchants in Khartoum, others by exporters. Last year the Khartoum market handled 500,000 head of sheep, 180,000 cattle, 6,000 camels and hundreds of goat and donkeys.

The LMMC has greatly improved road and rail links to transport livestock, and runs an effective veterinary service. It is funded by the Sudanese government, Saudi Arabia, the World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). In 1985, the World Bank's International Development Association loaned \$5.5 million to the LMMC, which received another \$6 million from IFAD for further improvements to veterinary services, water supplies and transport.

The aid agencies are anxious to support what they see as an economic winner for Sudan. With an overall trade deficit of \$700 million last year and a foreign debt of \$9 billion, the country is under intense pressure from the International Monetary Fund to boost exports and to pay the interest on its foreign debt.

Traditionally, livestock could only be herded into markets from the west after the rains, when there was sufficient pasture to feed the animals along the routes. But today animals arrived at the LMMC markets all the year round, providing stable prices for the pastoralists and a steady sup-



In Sudan, livestock outnumbers people by two to one. (Photo by Mark Edwards — Earthscan)

ply both for the cities and for export.

Nomadic herders, who know they will receive good prices from the LMMC, appear pleased with its operations. The low cost of water at the LMMC fattening stations and the presence of ample fodder, trucked in by private operators, are additional incentives.

But critics claim that as more boreholes are sunk in the west of Sudan to water yet more livestock, overgrazing and deforestation will be the inevitable results. "The traditional balance of nature between man and the environment,

where animal numbers were kept down by the lack of water, has been fundamentally upset," says Cater.

Other observers are perplexed that a country which only last year was ravaged by famine can even contemplate boosting its meat exports. But the western nomads have always sold their animals for grain, and at the moment Sudan has a surplus of grain.

"The improved transportation of livestock will relieve pressure in the west," said Mr. Bisrat Akililu, IFAD's project controller for Sudan. "The whole point is that

the animals are not kept there but are quickly marketed away to the east of Sudan," he emphasised, and we shall be monitoring the ecological impact very closely," he added.

Whether the LMMC strategy can work remains to be seen. The next time the rains fall in Sudan the optimistic planners or the pessimistic aid agencies may have to eat their words — Earthscan.

John Tanner is a London-based journalist who recently returned from Sudan.

Egyptian court rules '1001 nights' not pornographic

By Dalila Baligh
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — The morals court of appeal has overturned a lower court ruling confiscating an edition of the "Thousand and One Nights" on ground the book is a Middle Eastern classic, not a "sex book."

The government last May charged three booksellers with misdemeanor violations of pornography laws by printing, importing and distributing an obscene version of the classic and allegedly adding pornographic paragraphs to it.

Three thousand copies of the book were confiscated, and the defendants were fined up to 500 pounds (\$370) each after the morals court said Egypt's strict obscenity laws left it no alternative. They appealed the ruling.

"The impounded book cannot be considered a sex book, and was not written with the intention of breaching public decency," an explanatory note by the appeal court judge Sayed Mohammed Youssef said in overturning the earlier ruling.

A summary of the note was published Tuesday by the daily newspaper Al-Ahram. The note said the impounded edition was already a cleaned-up version of the original "Thousand and One Nights," which he conceded contains "phrases" breaching public decency if they are taken alone, not as part of the book as a whole.

Ahmed Sabry, senior prosecutor for the northern Cairo district, told the Associated Press he has not decided whether to appeal the new ruling to the cassation court, Egypt's highest judicial body. He said he has 40 days to study the explanatory note and decide.

The 3,000 impounded copies of the classic will remain in police custody until the decision is made.

The government's argument against the confiscated edition of "Thousand and One Nights" was

that its racy passages were a threat to Egyptian youth. Government lawyers painted a picture of booksellers lurking outside schools to sell the book to innocent pupils.

Their position caused an uproar among scholars and intellectuals, who bitterly complained of interference with the 125 stories spun by Scheherazade, wife of King Shehryar of Samarkand. Although the stories are identified in the West with Arab and Islamic culture, scholars say they apparently are Persian, Indian and Iraqi in origin.

The first complete edition appeared in Calcutta, India, in the early 19th century, though scholars say some of the tales are more than 1,000 years old.

In explaining why it overturned the obscenity ruling, the appeals court noted that organisers of Cairo's annual Egyptian international book fair for years have included the "Thousand and One Nights" among books exhibited and sold.

"The decision to allow this book to be sold and read is because of its literary value and because it is part of our folklore," the court note said.

Many other Middle Eastern classics are sold freely with "open love phrases, much more than those in the impounded book," it said. "It does not stand to reason that people buy this book only to read a few separate phrases in it that breach public decency if they are taken alone."

"The book was a base for literary wonders by well-known scholars... a fact negating the accusation that (it) arouses undesirable feelings and lust in its readers, except for a person who is sick or shallow."

Government officials had said they were not against stories about world-known characters like Sindbad the sailor and Ali Baba.

But the book includes graphic sexual references in a few stories, especially one recounting the adventures of three young girls who pick up and seduce a poor porter.

Africans issue landmark declaration on birth control

By John Edlin
The Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe — Lawmakers from 29 African nations issued a landmark declaration last Friday pledging support for family planning programmes to curb the continent's population explosion.

They said the unchecked baby boom frustrated economic and social goals in food production, health, education and employment. Africa has the highest birth rate in the world.

The legislators promised to formulate and implement national policies and programmes to decrease the high rate of population growth, which is 3 per cent annually against a 1.9 per cent annual increase in food output.

"Our problem relates to the issue of striking a reasonable balance between population and economic growth," Didymus Mutasa, the speaker of Zimbabwe's National Assembly, said at the closing session of the five-day All-Africa Parliamentary Conference on Population and Development. Mutasa was conference chairman.

"This will enable us not only to sustain our present standards of life, but to actually uplift them," he added.

The legislators, 29 delegates and eight observers from other African countries, agreed also to establish a permanent Council of African Parliamentarians on Population and Development. Its aims, according to a resolution, will be to direct and monitor family planning programmes and to encourage other nations to adopt population control policies.

The declaration was immediately hailed as an "explosion of progress" for Africa by the New York-based Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, which organised the conference steering committee secretary-general and Kenya's assistant Labour Minister, told a news conference after the closing session: "There was a consensus... that tradition is no excuse for not acting. We must deal with the issues of today."

The keynote resolve of the five-page declaration pledged the legislators to "introduce and strengthen programmes of family planning information and services, including those of government, nongovernmental organisations and the private sector."

The lawmakers also promised to "support our governments and people in efforts to improve the quality of life" through better health care and education, emphasis on greater food production to reach self-sufficiency, an end to discrimination against women and solutions to the plight of the continent's millions of refugees.

Forward-planning games with the data bank

By Donne Norbert Beyer

SIMPLY possessing data is no longer enough when it comes to planning processes in politics, industry and the economy. With the aid of a computer, research institutes draw up scenarios, i.e. planning games, in regard to the future. The Frankfurt-based Battelle Institute recently demonstrated examples of its scenario technology in Bonn: the Federal Republic of Germany in the year 2000.

UNEMPLOYMENT has been practically overcome. One million persons are employed in the public welfare sector as the result of government policies; the 30-hour work week has become a reality. A start has been made on cleaning up old refuse dumps, resulting in higher employment figures. Moreover, the 7-day week has been introduced. Technologies are used longer, and flexible working hours have created more active lifestyles at almost all hours of the day. Local public transportation has been expanded to an optimal level, which has led to a crisis in the automobile industry. New technologies and environmental protection measures, however, are creating safer jobs. Since the state no longer intervenes in economic processes, the power of industrial con-

glomerates is growing. Their anonymity results in a severe increase in terrorism. This, in turn, helps to boost a flourishing security industry.

This does not quite correspond to reality. It is a vision of the economic and social structure of the Federal Republic of Germany at the turn of the century, entitled *The Future State*. It is not the product of a clairvoyant's crystal ball, but of a computer's microchips. Dr. Joachim Schaefer, Battelle Institute, explained at the *Wissenschaftszentrum* in Bonn that they are among the most important of the imagined scenarios, despite the conclusive nature of some of the forecasts.

Whereas in the olden days, oracles were consulted on the future, it is the factual modern data banks which in our day supply those th-

risting for knowledge with information. But this information is without guarantee. It merely describes possible situations in the future, known as "scenarios," in the political, economic, or military spheres. In military terminology, they are known as *Planspiele*, i.e. map exercises or planning games.

Nevertheless, they are not the usual one-dimensional forecasts about a specific event, such as the federal elections. On the contrary, they are comprehensive visions and models of states, of correlations and interactions between highly differing factors. In short, they are holograms of reality which include the federal chancellor and the unemployed economist, oil shortages and terrorism.

Scenarios are drawn up graphically by experts on the basis of current events. In so doing, they take the components of such a model from special data bank material. Instead of supplying business or state institutes with plain data for their future planning, the Battelle Institute weaves specific information into a picture of the future, such as Ger-

many in the Year 2000.

It goes without saying that it is impossible to project all conceivable political or social developments. Experts tend to restrict themselves to two or three different or even opposing future situations when creating a framework model. These "communication scenarios" provide a peripheral guide to the future. In reality, developments will probably follow their course somewhere between the two extremes chosen. A "strategic scenario," is developed on the basis of one or two probable future visions, if strategies are designed for a client wishing to know how to organise his firm in the future.

In order to map out such situations, the experts need a large number of facts known as "descriptors." These are influential factors which play a part in specific developments. They are selected according to the desired scenario and are also determined by the client. The 170 descriptors for developments in Germany include interest rates, inflation, NATO stability, the birthrate, centralised

power structures, development of radical groups, and health. Inflation, of course, can be fed into the computer in absolute figures. But in the majority of cases, the descriptors, such as East-West relations, have to be formulated according to quality.

Once these descriptors have been lumped together in such categories as "society" or "technology," their actual quality is determined. Then the most likely future development is worked out for each descriptor. What follows are "assumption bundles," which are logical and non-contradictory, e.g., "enormous upswing in automobile industry" or "marked drop in local public transportation." The experts determine which descriptors are compatible, and which mutually exclude each other. The computer then comes up with the assumption bundles in the order of their conclusiveness. Two or three statements are selected from these bundles of conclusions: either the extremes (in order to register the extent of a development) or the statements with the highest degree of probability (in order to plan the

envisaged future).

The skeleton of a model of the future has thus been achieved. Now a graphic scenario is drawn up and the level of susceptibility to likely disruptive factors is checked, e.g., collapse of governments, environmental catastrophes, or new inventions.

Finally, the consequences, i.e., the client's options, are outlined. This "gazing" into the crystal ball is designed to prevent crises and increase profits. Needless to say, the Battelle Institute avoided presenting the most likely future for Germany in the Year 2000, because it has already received several commissions along those lines.

It is still possible to gather quite a lot of information about what might happen even from "non-realistic" visions, although wishes and probability may become somewhat entwined. The clients from industry and the business community, for instance, dictate the proposed objective of these scenarios. As a result, the scenario always remains purpose-related — The German Research Service, Bonn.

U.N. lists famous refugees to stem fears of foreign influx

By Dorothee Jung
Reuters

GENEVA — "A bundle of belongings isn't the only thing a refugee brings to his new country," proclaims the slogan on a United Nations poster above the furrowed brow of Albert Einstein.

Most people will have heard of Einstein, Nobel prize-winning physicist, whether or not they understand his theory of relativity. But how many know that he was also a refugee — and that so were other famous figures such as Chopin, Lenin, Freud, Marlene Dietrich and Victor Hugo?

For the past year, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has campaigned to break down mounting barriers erected against the tide of refugees worldwide.

Industrialised nations, it hopes, could give the thousands of Indo-Chinese, Middle Eastern or African refugees knocking on their doors more than a grudging welcome if they considered each one as a potential asset, not a liability.

As part of this effort, the agency's magazine every month portrays famous figures who, at some point in their lives, suffered the upheavals of persecution and refugee existence.

"The list is endless," says editor-in-chief Michel Barton. "It is a response to the typical accusation that foreigners are a burden. That is economic nonsense — people who work and produce enrich and become part of the fabric of a community."

The series illustrates that many famous refugees through the ages, regardless of the persecution they faced at home, have shouldered feelings of anxiety, fear and loneliness.

When the Italian poet Dante Alighieri was banished from Florence around 1300, accused of corruption and threatened with being burned alive, he quoted his father as saying:

"You shall be forced to abandon everything that is the most dear to you. This is the first arrow from the bow of exile. You shall taste the bitterness of the bread of

exile and learn how hard it is to walk the stairs of others."

Another exile was Spanish painter Francisco de Goya who gained much strength from the presence of fellow emigrants, his favourite portrait subjects in the French immigrant enclave of Bordeaux. Nearly 80 years old, deaf and almost blind, he had crossed the Pyrenees in 1824.

Polish composer Frederic Chopin, urged by his family not to return after failure of an uprising against Russian military rule, tried to

recapture the spirit of his homeland in music.

His odyssey finally ended in Paris where, his health sapped and finances depleted, he died of tuberculosis in 1849.

At about the same time French writer Victor Hugo, "banished from the empire," embarked on an exile that was to last nearly 20 years. Disguised as a worker, he fled to Belgium only to be turned away and later went to the Channel island of Guernsey.

"One cannot embrace the entire horizon of truth or understand that all human life... is sacred until one actually experiences the trials of exile," he wrote.

In 1900 Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, founder of the Soviet Union, fled Tsarist police after three years' Siberian exile. He lived in Geneva, Zurich, Munich and London for 15 years.

A few decades later Sigmund Freud, the Austrian Jew who was the founder of psychoanalysis, suffered the wrath of the Nazis. His works were burned in public, his

family harassed. Finally they fled to Britain where he died in 1939.

Others who had their books thrown in Nazi bonfires were writer Thomas Mann and Einstein, who found sanctuary in the United States.

Another famous German to flee the Nazis was husky-voiced film star Marlene Dietrich who took American citizenship in 1939.

"The United States took me in when I had no other country worthy of the name, and I will always be grateful for it," she wrote later.

Alpine goats and vines thrive in Egyptian desert

By Kate Dourian
Reuters

BAHARIYA, Egypt — Alpine goats and grape vines, duck ponds and fish lakes in the desert?

No, it's not a mirage. It's the reality of this oasis 350 km southwest of Cairo, thanks to a pioneer project of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP).

It is a pilot farm which aims to feed more than 800 workers and their families from a nearby iron mine of the state-owned Egyptian iron and steel company.

The French leader of the project, Roland Martello, admits his bosses at FAO headquarters in Rome told him he was mad to start fish farming in the desert.

But he persisted. He filled ponds with water used to wash

extracted ore and found fish and ducks survived in them. He dug up an old trailer and made it a reservoir for surplus water from the ponds. Then he built a drip system to grow watermelons and vines. France donated dozens of goats.

Visiting teacher Toni Barakat from Cairo decided to duplicate the experiment to help feed 22,000 bedouins living in villages

dotting the oasis. One such village is Harra, a cluster of mud houses amid palm trees in a desert depression rich in artesian wells.

A traveller from Cairo is an oddity in Harra. A road was opened in 1971 but visitors are still rare.

The oasis and the bedouin villages, for all their remoteness, have an international past.

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Belgium suffers drubbing by an inspired Yugoslavia on eve of trip to Mexico

BRUSSELS (R) — World Cup finalists Belgium were given a jolt less than 48 hours before their departure for the Mexico finals when they suffered a 3-1 trouncing by Yugoslavia Monday night.

Manager Guy Thij's hopes of leaving in style were left in tatters after the Yugoslavs fired three first half goals, and he was forced to make six substitutions at the interval in a desperate attempt to salvage a measure of pride.

The play-enabled Nico Claessens to scramble a goal in the 59th minute after he was put through by Enzo Scifo in virtually the only serious challenge of the match by the home side.

Yugoslavia, who were finalists

in 1982 but failed to qualify this time, had little to play for but much to prove in Belgium's last warm-up before the tournament starting in 12 days.

Two goals by Skoro and one by Jankovic in the first 37 minutes threatened a humiliating send-off for the Belgians, who are in Group B with hosts Mexico, Paraguay and Iraq.

Yugoslavia appeared determined from the outset to show what the soccer world would miss

in Mexico and set about carving up their opposition with reckless glee.

They went ahead in the seventh minute when Radanovic put through Skoro — one of the stars of the game — for an easy goal.

Yugoslavia increased their lead 16 minutes later through Jankovic, Skoro supplying the pass. Skoro scored his second goal in the 37th minute.

Belgium, who have had high altitude training in Switzerland, made halftime changes that bolstered up a deficient defence and midfield, but were unable to provide the ingredient necessary to turn the evening into a Belgian celebration.

Benefit volleyball match scheduled for Thursday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat, a volleyball match between Al Wihdat Youth Centre and Al Hussein Youth Centre will be held on Thursday, at Al Hussein Sports City.

Proceeds will go to the National Relief Committee for Sudan for projects directly benefitting Sudan, and to other African countries suffering from drought and famine.

Thursday's match is part of Jordan's activities in the international "Sport Aid" week to raise funds for Africa.

Other events to be held include a bridge tournament on May 25, the "Race Against Time" run, also on May 25, and a football match between Al Faisali and Al Jazireh clubs at Al Hussein Sports City. No date has been set yet for the football match.

Meanwhile Sudanese athlete Omar Khalifa on Wednesday ran 10 kilometres through Brussels

continuing the "Sport Aid" marathon to raise funds for African famine relief.

Khalifa, who arrived by plane from Rome and ran through the capital to the Grande Place (main square) in Brussels, was greeted by Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens.

Martens said he backed the Sport Aid marathon and added: "How can we accept... that as every minute passes, 22 people like you and me die because they haven't enough to eat."

In a message to Khalifa, European Community (EC) Commission President Jacques Delors said despite aid to Africa from the EC, more could be done. "There is no miracle solution," he added.

Khalifa was due to fly to Paris later on Wednesday to continue his series of runs in major cities throughout the world which will end at the United Nations in New York on Sunday.

Sweet 16 with a killer instinct

By Paul Radford
Reuter

WEST BERLIN — She is sweet and she is 16. But beneath the innocent smile lurks an all-consuming ambition and a ruthless killer instinct.

Steffi Graf may be a shy adolescent at heart but she does not shrink from teaching her supposed elders and betters a tennis lesson.

Monday's crushing 6-2, 6-3 win over Martina Navratilova in the final of the West German Women's Open quelled any doubts that she is now ready to challenge the cosy supremacy of Navratilova, the world number one, and Chris Evert Lloyd at the peak of women's tennis.

A breathtaking rush of success has brought her 19 wins in a row and four successive titles. Her first win over Navratilova followed a first victory over Lloyd last month, also in straight sets.

In the past decade or so the two Americans have scooped almost all the major honours in the sport and have rarely been challenged at the top of the world computer rankings.

But the West German teenager looks set to change all that with her brilliant form and it would be rash to bet against her chances of adding a fifth straight title when she travels to Paris for the French Open starting next week.

In seven tournaments this year the precocious Graf has reached six finals and seven semifinals.

She rose to third place in the

rankings before winning a tournament but then went on to capture three titles in a row in the United States.

In the first she beat Lloyd in the final at Hilton Head, following up by victories at Amelia Island, Indianapolis and now West Berlin on her triumphant return to Europe.

Asked whether she expected to win a Grand Slam tournament this year, Graf said: "I wouldn't like to say I have no chance. Perhaps in the French because I'm best on clay."

Her strong baseline game and extremely powerful forehand are well suited to the demands of slow courts.

Graf may be slim and wiry but she packs an explosive shot which few, if any, on the circuit can match.

Hard work over the past year on the weaker parts of her game, notably her serve, volley and backhand, are paying off handsomely. Her match with Navratilova showed what a complete player she is becoming.

Graf's career offers something of a parallel with that of Boris Becker, the West German prodigy of the men's game.

Both hail from the Heidelberg area of central Germany, both earned headlines at a tender age and both possess the iron will and determination to succeed at all costs which marks out the true champion.

Coached by her father, mentor and close companion Peter Graf,

who runs a tennis school, Steffi left school at 13 to concentrate full-time on tennis. She takes her school books on the road with her.

She became the youngest player to achieve a world computer ranking at the age of 13 and went on to win the Olympic demonstration title in Los Angeles when she was 14, the youngest player in the tournament.

Becker's feats, particularly his Wimbledon win, overshadowed Graf's less spectacular rise last year and resulted in a huge interest in tennis by the West German media and public.

But as Becker struggled to find consistency this year much of the focus of attention switched suddenly to Graf.

"I don't enjoy all the media attention and publicity," Graf said. "But it's part of the game and you have to get used to it."

"So far I don't find it puts me under any extra pressure. I always go out on court to do my best and that hasn't changed."

Since she started on the circuit Graf has showed a single-minded approach towards her avowed aim of becoming the world's number one.

Though she smiles sweetly and her eyes twinkle innocently as she talks about her tennis, one senses a hunger that will not be satisfied with anything less than the top ranking.

Navratilova, 29, and Lloyd, 31, may not be able to fend off the resolution of the girl who is barely half their age for much longer.

Ian Botham's career in balance after drug-use revelations, team suspension

LONDON (AP) — The career of England cricket star Ian Botham hung in the balance Monday after he was dropped from his country's two one-day internationals against India, a day after a newspaper published his confession that he was smoked marijuana.

The burly all-rounder, the only player to have scored 4,000 runs and taken 300 wickets in tests, had been chosen to play in the internationals at the Oval Saturday and Old Trafford the following Monday.

But after a lengthy, specially convened meeting, the Test and County Cricket Board, which governs English cricket, announced that the 30-year-old star would not play again for England until a decision about his future had been decided by its disciplinary committee.

The eight-man TCCB, chaired by former England test opener Ramon Subba Row, met in secret away from their headquarters at Lord's — the home of English cricket — to debate Botham's future.

Under rules drawn up in 1984, a player involved in drugs offences can be fined or banned from tests or county cricket.

Last year, after Botham was convicted of possessing marijuana found at his home, the TCCB warned him that any further involvement in drugs would lead to some form of punishment.

After its meeting Monday, the TCCB issued a statement that an

investigation into Botham's publicised drug-taking confession would be carried out "as a matter of urgency" and he would not be allowed to represent England until it had been completed.

Botham's confession that he had smoked marijuana as a teenager and in his early 20s, was published in the tabloid Mail on Sunday at the weekend.

In a report that appeared under his name, Botham said he was introduced to marijuana by a group of people who were smoking the drug and "went along with it." He said he became "a casual user" of the drug.

He continued: "On other occasions I have smoked simply in order to relax — to get off the fearful treadmill of being an international celebrity, trying to forget for a moment the pressures which were on me at the time."

Botham already had been chosen for the two one-day internationals against India on Saturday (May 24) and Monday (May 26), and, barring a loss of form, was expected to face India and then New Zealand in the two summer test series.

While the TCCB discussed Botham's confession, the all-rounder was playing for his county, Somerset, in a Benson and Hedges' one-day game against Sussex at Hove.

Before taking the field, he said: "As far as I'm concerned, life goes on. I have done nothing to worry about."

Botham's confession, the all-rounder was playing for his county, Somerset, in a Benson and Hedges' one-day game against Sussex at Hove.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

PSV tops Feyenoord Rotterdam

AMSTERDAM (R) — PSV Eindhoven, their eighth league title already safely under the belt, showed their pedigree with a 3-2 away win over third-placed Feyenoord Rotterdam Monday. The victory leaves PSV on 59 points with one game to play, seven ahead of Ajax Amsterdam who beat FC Twente Enschede 6-0. Feyenoord's last home game of a disappointing season saw their defence unable to cope with a mobile PSV attack and the surging runs from midfield of Dutch international Ruud Gullit. An early goal by Frans Van Rooy and one in each half from Gullit saw PSV home.

Sion captures Swiss Cup from Servette

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — Sion scored a 3-1 come-from-behind victory over Servette of Geneva to win the Swiss Cup soccer final on Monday. Sion's star of the day was Alain Balet, who scored two goals for the team from the Valais region. Balet scored in the 42nd minute with a lightning-fast shot that took Servette's goalie by surprise, tying the match at half-time. Servette's Marc Schwyder had scored first, in the 25th. Balet scored again with a stunning long shot in the 52nd minute, putting Sion in the lead. Servette, making several mistakes, was unable to recover, and Christophe Bonvin capped Sion's victory with a goal in the 81st minute, just three minutes after he took the field.

Canada routed 3-0 by Wales

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (R) — World Cup finalists Canada were outclassed 3-0 by an under-strength Wales in a friendly international which attracted a crowd of just 9,007 to the 59,000 capacity BC Place Indoor Stadium Monday night. Although they did not have to face Ian Rush and Mark Hughes, the Canadian defence had no answer to the pace of the Welsh attacks and Brighton striker Dean Saunders celebrated a rare international appearance with goals in the 11th and 49th minutes. Watford substitute Malcolm Allen rounded off the scoring nine minutes from time. The Canadians, who meet France, Hungary and the Soviet Union in Mexico, beat Wales 2-0 in Toronto on May 10 but they never looked capable of repeating that upset.

Pat Ewing named NBA Rookie of the Year

NEW YORK (AP) — Patrick Ewing of the New York Knicks, despite missing 32 games with a variety of injuries, was named NBA Rookie of the Year Monday with more than double the votes of second-place finisher Xavier McDaniel of Seattle. Ewing, who averaged 20.0 points and 9.0 rebounds in 50 games, received 36 votes from a nationwide panel of media members. McDaniel and Utah's Karl Malone were second and third, respectively, with 16½ and 14½ votes. Four other rookies also received first-place votes. Spud Webb of Atlanta had four, Manute Bol of Washington and Charles Oakley of Chicago three each and Benoit Benjamin of the Los Angeles Clippers one.

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Tel: 625155
Performances 3:30, 5:30, 9:00, 10:45

Cinema OPERA
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ROLLER BOOGIE
Performances 3:15, 5:00, 8:45, 10:45

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WHITE NIGHTS
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BLESSING FROM HEAVEN
(Arabic)
Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.5265/75	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3750/60	Canadian dollars
	2.2195/2205	West German marks
	2.5000/10	Dutch guilders
	1.8515/25	Swiss francs
	45.26/31	Belgian francs
	7.0650/700	French francs
	1522/1523	Italian lire
	167.00/10	Japanese yen
	7.1250/300	Swedish crowns
	7.5450/5500	Norwegian crowns
	8.2100/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	339.50/340.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed firmer although off the earlier highs in places after a relatively quiet session with most business confined to special situations, dealers said. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 11.7 points at 1,584.8 after touching a high of 1,585.4 at 0920 GMT.

Equities moved ahead on the back of firm sterling and Monday's better than expected U.K. public sector borrowing requirement of £861 million in April.

But sterling eased slightly against the dollar after the unexpected upward revision in U.S. first quarter GNP to 3.7 per cent from an earlier 3.2 per cent estimate.

Government bonds pared early gains by around 1/4 point after the upward GNP revision but still closed with gains ranging to 1/4 point. Most analysts had been expecting a downward GNP revision to around 2.9 per cent, dealers said.

Stores were active after better than expected full year profits of £192.7 million from J. Sainsbury, up 8p at 386 after 393. Gus A. 15p firmer at 1005, continued its recent advance on speculation of a forthcoming deal with Times Furnishing.

Rank Hovis McDougall, a penny lower at 203 after 205, reported interim pretax profits of £40.2 million on Tuesday which was in line with market expectations.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime finds you able to solve issues with partners and associates in a very cooperative spirit so that in the future there can be a much greater accord existing between you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Show that you truly understand the issues involved and you can come to a fine agreement with partners.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try to please higher-ups more during the daytime and be charming. Tonight go after information you need quickly.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Arrange appointments with friends for social and/or recreational activities. Quietly go about your work.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Add more beauty and efficiency to your home and make everything harmonious there.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Take more interests in the needs of friends and try to please them and don't be so aloof now. Handle all communications early in the day.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Make home improvements that will bring you more pleasure and comfort. Study how to increase abundance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be charming and magnetic with everyone and get help for your pet projects. Show your gratitude to those who deserve it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You enjoy digging in to whatever is enigmatic and can come up with the right answers now. Trust your instincts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your friends can bring you much pleasure today, so see as many of them as possible. Be careful not to overspend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be sure to mend your fences where credit and career interests are concerned. Be with good friends this evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Let it be a give-and-take situation with new associates since you can learn a good deal from them.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A fine day to become more harmonious with your mate, so be cooperative. Concentrate on new ideals in the evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will have a sweet quality that will appeal to almost everyone he or she comes in contact with, and will do well in any profession which requires getting along well and harmoniously with others, be it in politics, medicine, teaching, etc. Must learn to reach decisions quickly.

Castro abolishes free markets, continues nuclear power plan

MIAMI (AP) — Cuba's communist government has halted its experiment with capitalism, Havana radio reported Monday. It also reported that Cuba is pushing ahead with its Soviet-directed nuclear reactor construction.

"The peasant free market will pass without glory, leaving behind a great lesson, many damages and millions of dollars," President Fidel Castro was quoted as saying.

A report on Radio Rebel, monitored in Miami, said President Castro declared the free market abolished, calling it "a source of enrichment for neo-capitalists and neo-bourgeois."

In a separate report, the state-run domestic Cuban radio announced a new contract with the Soviet Union for nuclear materials for two reactors under construction near the southern Cuban city of Cienfuegos. This was the first mention of Cuba's nuclear project since the April 26 disaster at the Soviet nuclear power plant at Chernobyl.

President Castro's decision to end the 6-year-old "free markets," which gave farmers an incentive to increase production by allowing them to sell produce themselves after satisfying state quotas, came after several earlier speeches in which he vowed an end to corruption.

The free markets were among several measures taken in recent years to relax tight state control of the economy, in hopes of improving production.

About two years after the free markets began, the government in 1982 announced new restrictions, including a 20 per cent tax on farmers' profits. But President Castro lashed out at middlemen who bought the products of farmers in the countryside, then brought them into the cities and sold them at a larger profit.

"Before the activity of certain individuals who want to become rich at the expense of the sweat of others, we make clear that one thing is respect of initiative and quite another thing different is tolerance of abuses and enrichment," President Castro declared.

In the report on Cuba's nuclear power plans, Mr. Lazaro Hernandez, director of the Energy-Import Agency of Cuba, was quoted as calling the new nuclear equipment contract with the Soviet Union an expression of "our total confidence in the scientific-technical development of the Soviets in the energy and nuclear fields."

Mr. Gregor Vladimir Dimitrov, identified as a Soviet official, said the nuclear materials being sent to Cuba are of the kind used in 19 nuclear reactors in other nations.

modest.

Mr. Roland Leuschel, economic analyst with Banque Bruxelles Lambert (BBL), said: "We are always criticising the United States, but its public deficit is just five per cent of gross domestic product. The fact is our eight per cent will be eight per cent too much."

However, the financial world generally welcomed the news of the government accord. The Belgian franc strengthened slightly Tuesday morning and shares on the Brussels bourse opened higher after the long weekend.

The government has refused to negotiate with the socialist and Christian unions which have arranged Wednesday official strike and are hoping the protests will die down.

Mr. Soriano told a shareholders' meeting last week the shares had been bought by San Miguel's subsidiary in Hong Kong, Neptunia Corporation.

The sellers were 14 companies controlled by Marcos associates Eduardo Cojuangco, a cousin of President Corason Aquino. He fled the country in February when Marcos was toppled in a civilian-backed military revolt.

Commission chief, Mr. Ramon Diaz, said he suspected the buyers and sellers of the shares were in effect the same people, because Mr. Cojuangco was a Neptunia director.

He told reporters a sequestration order was served Monday and that the commission would now exercise the shares' voting rights until ownership was settled.

He added the commission now controlled 56 per cent of the stock of San Miguel, the country's biggest company, as it had previously taken over 18 million other shares owned by Mr. Cojuangco.

He said the government would not manage the company, but would use its voting power to elect directors.

The government issued an order last week preventing shareholders from confirming Mr. Soriano as chairman and electing other directors.

The agreement signed on April 11, 1984 ended India's longest dock strike of 26 days.

NEW DELHI (R) — About 300,000 Indian port and dock workers will begin an indefinite strike from June 15 involving the country's 10 major ports, a union leader said Tuesday.

Mr. S.R. Kulkarni, president, All-India Port and Dock Workers Federation (AIPDWF), said the strike decision was unanimously taken by four union federations after negotiations with the government broke down earlier in the day.

"Talks with the union transport ministry for our demands have failed and we have decided to serve a strike notice on the management of 10 ports on June 15, 15 days before the stoppage as required under the law," he said.

Mr. Kulkarni said the strike was to protest over what he said non-fulfilment of a 1984 agreement with port management.

The agreement signed on April 11, 1984 ended India's longest dock strike of 26 days.

PEKING (R) — Aluminium-starved China signed what officials said was its biggest foreign investment to take 10 per cent stake Tuesday in a troubled Australian aluminium smelter.

Visiting Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke and Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang watched as officials signed a \$70 million accord aimed at providing China with 30,000 tonnes of the metal annually by 1988.

Mr. Hawke, on a six-day official visit, and Mr. Zhao dined glasses of champagne after the signing at Peking's Great Hall of the People, and then headed for a Western-style banquet.

The ceremony was the second highlight of the day for Mr. Hawke, who met top leader Mr. Deng Xiaoping, Tuesday morning for an hour's talks on China's development and foreign affairs.

The agreement gives state-owned Alcoa International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC) 10 per cent equity, purchased from Alcoa of Australia Ltd., in the \$710 million Portland smelter in Victoria state.

Australian officials said CITIC's injection, worth about \$70 million when the smelter is operating, was the largest foreign investment by China so far.

The accord came three months after Victoria Premier John Cain told Reuters China planned to make the investment.

Mr. Cain, also visiting China, signed on behalf of the state government, which holds 35 per cent of the equity. Also signing were Alcoa Australia Managing Director John Diederich and Mr. Min Yu, CITIC vice president.

The project has been hit by a depressed world market and political problems which in 1982 led to a two-year deferral of construction. Production is expected to begin in later this year, and annual capacity eventually should reach 300,000 tonnes.

Mr. Cain said CITIC should get about 15,000 tonnes of aluminium in 1987 and about 30,000 tonnes annually thereafter.

Mr. Michel said his own plan would force the administration to get tough with trading partners. But the amendment rules out cutting exports from countries with large trade surpluses and requiring retaliation against unfair trade practices.

Both the Republicans and the Democrats have proposed setting up a \$300 million war chest to fight foreign export subsidies with U.S. subsidies, a scheme the White House backs.

The Democrats' bill would authorise Mr. Reagan to negotiate open markets to U.S. telecommunications products and would authorise retaliation if he were unsuccessful.

It would strengthen trade laws to protect U.S. trademarks, patents and copyrights and would allow punitive actions against foreign subsidies on timber, natural gas and other natural resources sold in competition with domestic products.

The bill calls for reform of the international monetary system and sets up a reserve of currency to intervene in foreign exchange markets to keep the dollar competitive.

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House Republicans say they will challenge the trade bill and Republican leader, Mr. Robert Michel, of Illinois has proposed an amendment to delete most of its controversial provisions.

He accused the Democrats of promoting a trade bill that would choke U.S. markets abroad and punish consumers with higher prices.

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The loss of exports has hurt manufacturing where about two million jobs have been lost. Even the traditionally strong agricultural export industry has seen foreign sales fall to \$7 billion last year from \$25 billion in 1981.

But administration officials expect a lower valued dollar to help bring down the deficit slightly in the second half of the year.

Monday, the administration stepped up its campaign against the bill, with White House spokesman, Mr. Larry Speakes, calling it "absolutely disastrous" and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige saying it would "put us further behind in trade than we are now."

U.S. trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yeutter, said the bill would have "dangerous consequences for our economy, damaging our international competitiveness for years to come."

Both Republicans and Democrats have criticised Mr. Reagan for taking too weak a stance against what are seen as unfair trade

U.S. legislators debate commerce bill opposing White House viewpoints

WASHINGTON (R) — The House of Representatives opened debate Tuesday on a trade bill, branded as protectionist by the White House and Republicans, which could force a reluctant President Reagan to retaliate against overseas trading partners.

The bill, seen by opposition Democrats as a defence against unfair foreign trading restrictions, is expected to pass in the House Wednesday or Thursday. But it faces an uncertain future in the Senate where Mr. Reagan's own Republican Party dominates.

Mr. Reagan is expected to veto the bill if it clears Congress, a move that could be tough for Republican supporters to defend during autumn congressional elections in states with high unemployment.

Senior administration officials have assailed the bill as disastrous and warned it would invite retaliation against the United States' most competitive industries and farming.

But Democratic chairmen of the six House committees which drafted the bill say it is designed to force open foreign markets to more U.S. goods, not to block imports.

The legislation, aimed at Europe and Japan, would require Mr. Reagan to retaliate with quotas or tariffs against foreign trade practices found to be unfair to U.S. producers.

Another key provision would force Mr. Reagan to limit imports from countries with large trade surpluses — Japan, West Germany and South Korea — by 10 per cent a year for three years, unless they agree to import more U.S. goods or cut U.S.-bound

exports.

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Rebels force Colombo to suspend offensive

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — The army temporarily suspended a major anti-terrorist sweep Tuesday as some beleaguered troops retreated because of heavy firing by Tamil separatists and the danger of high civilian casualties.

The defence ministry denied reports by the Indian government and Tamil militants that Jaffna's hospital was destroyed in a bombing raid Monday and that dozens of civilians died and hundreds of others were wounded.

The ministry said at least six Tamil "terrorists" were confirmed killed in the bombing of northernmost Jaffna city and the hospital area, but said more were believed killed or injured.

That raised the official death toll in the three-day operation to 28 — 25 "terrorists," two soldiers and one civilian.

Reliable reports from Jaffna, however, indicated that the toll was closer to 50, mostly civilians or rebels.

Jaffna residents, contacted by telephone from Colombo, said two to three people died and 60 to 90 were injured when two light combat aircraft dropped bombs for 1½ hours, hitting the hospital, several shops and a coconut mill.

More than 40 people have been killed in three days of fighting between government troops and guerrillas trying to stop them from moving out of camps and advancing on Jaffna, residents said.

Tamil groups headquartered in India are claiming the death tolls are higher. The Tamil information centre in southern India says 12 civilians were killed Monday in the air attack in Jaffna alone.

The United News of India quoted a statement from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil in Madras as claiming 15 Sri Lankan soldiers and sailors were killed in clashes Monday.

There was no report of casualties on Tuesday, and the government said damage to the hospital appeared relatively minor.

The bombing of Jaffna marked the resumption of air raids against Tamil insurgents after suspension two months ago because of international criticism and outrage by Tamils.

The raid was denounced by Tamil moderates, militants and the Indian government as a brutal attack on civilians and a major setback to the fragile, presently stalled peace process.

"This is a major setback and contradicts the government's professed commitment to a political accord," Dr. Nelan Thiruchelvan, spokesman for the Tamil United Liberation Front, said in Colombo.

He told the Associated Press that the bombing was an attempt to undermine the negotiations at a "delicate and sensitive stage" before fresh talks could be scheduled.

The defence ministry said the air raid was necessary to provide air cover to soldiers who ventured out of Jaffna Fort and were trapped under rocket and mortar fire.

by guerrillas lodged behind the hospital, a supermarket, a bus stand, a library and an abandoned police headquarters.

Jaffna, a city of 300,000, is exclusively Tamil and has been a no-man's land for non-Tamils and security forces for about one year. Militants armed with machine guns took up positions around the city Tuesday to prevent the army from leaving Jaffna Fort, several metres from the hospital.

Major Gamini Balasooriya told reporters at a briefing Tuesday that in several places, troops had returned to camps "because they cannot proceed further and there would be more civilian casualties if they went on."

Soviet redefector links Shcharansky with CIA

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet-born former chief of U.S.-run Radio Liberty, who has reappeared in Moscow, said Monday that dissident Anatoly Shcharansky collaborated with both the radio and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The official Soviet news agency TASS quoted Mr. Oleg Tumanov as saying that "up to the time of Shcharansky's arrest in the Soviet Union, Radio Liberty repeatedly used information supplied by him in its inflammatory broadcasts."

"Moreover, his information for processing and editing came from CIA people working at Radio Liberty," it said.

Mr. Tumanov, 41, disappeared from his job in Munich as Radio Liberty's acting editor-in-chief earlier this year. He showed up in Moscow last month at an official news conference where he denounced his 20 years in the West as a nightmare.

Shcharansky, a Jewish rights activist, was freed last February in an East-West prisoner swap after nine years in captivity in the Soviet Union. He was sentenced as a U.S. agent in 1978, a year after his arrest, but denied the charge.

He said troops had withdrawn to Jaffna Fort and returned to the Elephant Pass Camp, the access causeway to Jaffna, after clearing land mines but encountering heavy shelling.

But he said forces still were out in Vasavilan, occupying a school captured from rebels and trying to remove landmines from the periphery of Palalay air field.

"The operation is not finished and will continue but some road clearing operations are off for the time being," the major said. "Our aim is not to cause civilian casualties."

He admitted that troops at Vasavilan were pinned down and venturing outside would invite rebel fire.

The government claims the operation in Jaffna peninsula is not a major offensive as widely reported but is an attempt to enlarge the military's area of control and remove land mines.

For nearly one year, the army, police and home guards have been restricted to their camps, encountering land mines, ambushes and heavy firing whenever they left.

Senior government officials said previously that the objective has been clear rebels out of the eastern provinces and then to launch an assault and regain control of the Tamil-dominated Jaffna peninsula.

Gorbachev, Gonzalez begin talks

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader, Mr. Michael Gorbachev, began talks in the Kremlin Tuesday with visiting Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, the official news agency TASS said.

The Spanish Socialist Party leader arrived Monday on his first official visit and met Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov.

At a banquet Monday night, Mr. Gonzalez defended his country's decision to enter NATO and said the promotion of human rights should not be seen as interference in the internal affairs of another country.

The speech was published Tuesday in the main Soviet newspaper, the Communist Party daily Pravda.

Mr. Ryzhkov, in his speech, said the Chernobyl nuclear power station accident was a warning to mankind but the use of nuclear weapons would be infinitely more destructive.

"The tragic accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant came as an ample warning to mankind," Mr. Ryzhkov said.

"For the misfortune, caused by a breakdown at the station, is incommensurate to the all-destructive pernicious whirlwind contained in nuclear weapons," the official news agency TASS quoted Mr. Ryzhkov as saying.

Thirteen people were killed and almost 300 injured by the April 26 accident, in which a reactor at the Ukrainian plant caught fire and sent radiation across Europe. Scientists consider it the worst accident in the history of atomic power.

Mr. Ryzhkov said Mr. Gorbachev had renewed Moscow's moratorium on nuclear weapons tests until Aug. 6 because the most important lesson from the Chernobyl accident was the need to abolish nuclear arms stockpiles.

The Soviet Union put a temporary halt to its nuclear tests last August but suspended the measure two months ago after the United States turned down Soviet offers to follow suit.

Mr. Ryzhkov repeated Mr. Gorbachev's call last week for international safeguards for developing nuclear power and for improved means of providing fast reciprocal assistance if accidents happened.

Mr. Ryzhkov also criticised U.S. air raids on Libya last month, saying: "The international community cannot allow arbitrariness and chaos to prevail in international relations."

West German Greens launch fresh drive

HANOVER (R) — West Germany's anti-nuclear movement has gone on the offensive after the Chernobyl disaster with protests and demands to shut down atomic power stations.

In Hanover, the Greens Party Monday agreed to demand immediate closure of the country's 19 nuclear power plants as the main plank of its 1987 election programme.

In Wackersdorf, where West Germany's first nuclear waste reprocessing plant is being built, police and demonstrators reported about 400 injuries and at least 16 arrests in three days of clashes.

Mr. Johannes Rau, the opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD) candidate for chancellor in next January's elections, said police at Wackersdorf had become victims of a highly-charged anti-nuclear atmosphere caused by Chernobyl.

Mr. Rau, whose party proposes gradual phasing out of nuclear power, ruled out a coalition with the Greens after the 1987 poll saying their programme went far beyond the bounds of reason.

The programme, adopted at the end of a four-day congress, also calls for withdrawal from NATO and the removal of foreign forces and U.S. nuclear weapons.

Commentators said it was a victory for hardliners struggling against those who want to compromise on policies in order to share power with the Social Democrats.

Weinberger meets NATO delegates in Vienna

VIENNA (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger conferred Tuesday with NATO delegates to the stalled Vienna talks on cutting conventional forces in central Europe.

The meeting with the Western ambassadors to the talks, which resumed for the summer round last week, was his first official engagement during a brief visit to Austria.

No details of the discussions emerged immediately but diplomatic sources had expected talks on how to push the 19-nation talks out of their present stalemate.

Delegates from NATO and the Warsaw Pact, who have been meeting for 13 years to try to cut men and arms in the central European theatre, are agreed on a reduction of a few thousand U.S. and Soviet troops as a first, exploratory step.

However, an optimistic mood that settled on the talks after last November's summit has evaporated.

Both sides are looking to see whether sweeping proposals by Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, in April for conventional arms cuts right across Europe will positively influence the talks.

Mr. Weinberger, who was due to meet Austrian leaders during the day before flying to a NATO ministerial meeting in Brussels.

Wednesday morning, indicated in an interview he would like to see neutral Austria strengthen its own defences.

"We recognise and respect Austria's policy of armed neutrality," Mr. Weinberger said in the interview with the daily Die Presse before his visit.

"I would advise anyone who values peace and freedom to be strong enough to be able to maintain and protect these values," he said.

Echoing the words of the new U.S. ambassador to Austria, Mr. Ronald Lauder, he stressed that the Western alliance took Austria's defence strength into account in its strategy.

"In so far as Austria's armed forces show a credible ability for self-defence, we see them as a positive contribution to NATO's defence and defence," he said.

Austria declared its permanent neutrality on the foundation of the second republic in 1955, when the four wartime occupying powers withdrew their forces.

Under the 1955 state treaty Austria is barred from installing missiles for defence. Their introduction would involve agreement from all four parties to the treaty — the United States, the Soviet Union, France and Britain.

Scientists see dangers in U.S. nuclear plants

WASHINGTON (AP) — The stricken Chernobyl reactor had a containment structure similar to a defective type used on U.S. atomic power plants, two opponents of nuclear power claimed.

But a spokesman for the General Electric Co. (G.E.), which has designed many U.S. reactors, said the structure over the crippled Soviet plant was not comparable to the design of American containment domes.

U.S. industry spokesmen have stressed that the reactor that exploded at Chernobyl in the Ukraine lacked a containment structure while 100 U.S. reactors have them. Of those, 34 use the G.E. system.

But the two nuclear opponents said Monday that the Chernobyl reactor had a containment of a design that "bears a striking resemblance to the defective design used by G.E. ... they both rely on what is known as a pressure-suppression containment system."

Mr. Daniel Ford, former executive director of the Union of Concerned Scientists, and Mr. Robert Pollard, a former staff member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) who now is nuclear safety engineer for the Union of Concerned Scientists, made the comments at a news conference.

Containment structures are designed to prevent the release of radioactive debris in case of a nuclear accident. All but two U.S. reactors producing commercial electricity, have containment domes.

The exceptions are the Fort St. Vrain reactor in Colorado and the energy department's nuclear reactor at Hanford, Washington, which also produces nuclear weapons material.

"The industry presents a false and misleading picture of what containment structures are really like," said Mr. Ford.

Pointing to an advertisement on the virtues of containments sponsored by the U.S. Committee for Energy Awareness, a trade group of utilities and equipment manufacturers, "Mr. Ford said, 'this is a false image of what a containment looks like' because it sketched a complete concrete-and-steel enclosure not penetrated by anything."

"The typical U.S. containment building has between 60 and 100 electrical conduits penetrating the walls and as many as 200 pipes, he said.

"The reality is they look like a pincushion," he said, adding the NRC records say plants operated on as many as 3,000 occasions between 1965 and 1983 with the containment not intact.

G.E. spokesman, Mr. Hugh Hexamer in San Jose, California, said the remarks of Mr. Ford and Mr. Pollard were a "blatant attempt to exploit this tragedy for their own ends."

'The Mission' wins top award in Cannes festival

CANNES, France (AP) — "The Mission" by Britain's Roland Joffe won the Golden Palm award for best film of the 39th Cannes film festival on Monday night.

The prize, presented by American Director Sydney Pollack, president of the 10-member jury, is the second major triumph for Joffe, whose film "The Killing Fields" took three Oscars in Los Angeles.

The American Martin Scorsese won best director for "After Hours," a tragedy-comedy whose hero, played by Griffin Dunne, stumbles through misadventures after hours in Manhattan.

Soviet exile, Andrei Tarkovsky, won the jury's special grand prix for his film "Sacrifice," made in Sweden. Sven Nykvist, who long has worked with Ingmar Bergman, was awarded the prize for best artistic contribution to the director for his work as photo director for "Sacrifice."

In a departure from tradition, both best actor and best actress awards were split. Britain's Bob Hoskins for his role in Neil Jordan's "Mona Lisa" and France's Michel Blanc for his role in Bertrand Blier's "Touche de Soirée" (Evening Wear) shared in the men's category.

West Germany's Barbara Sukowa, starring in Margarethe von Trotta's "Rosa Luxemburg" and Brazil's Fernanda Torres, starring in Amado Jabor's "Eu Sei Que Vou Te Amar" (Speak to me of love), each won best actress awards.

Blanc startled filmgoers for his willingness to play the passive role in a homosexual relationship opposite French idol Gerard Depardieu, who himself appears in drag. With Blanc cheating on his wife, played by mieu-mieu, to be with his male lover, the movie invariably spoofs relationships.

The film which took the Golden Palm, together with "The Killing Fields," demonstrates what clearly are Joffe's humanistic preoccupations. But for film goers here, "The Mission" came through with less impact than his first success, the story of a friendship between two men against a background of war, and critics paid less attention to "The Mission" than to some other entries.

"The Mission," with markedly beautiful scenes, recounts the fraternity of two Jesuit priests against another tormented background, the struggle by 18th century Portuguese and Spanish colonialists in Latin America and, ultimately, the price paid by the native Indian population.

Joffe was doubly awarded at Cannes, receiving the commission on technical aspects of French cinema's grand prix technique.

Tarkovsky's "Sacrifice," winner of the jury's grand prix, was among the films receiving more than casual attention from the hundreds of critics who flocked to Cannes for the 12-day event.

With Nykvist's bleak images of Sweden recalling Bergman, the haunting film takes the viewer back and forth between the worlds of sanity and madness via a family living on a solitary coast. Love, spirituality, war and death are the grand themes interwoven in this sometimes dreamlike drama, with Susan Fleetwood and Eriq Josephson as the couple.

Nykvist received the prize for best artistic contribution to the director.

The French film "Thérèse," the story of Saint Theresa of Lisieux directed by Alain Cavalier, won the jury's prize.

French Director Claire Devers won the Golden Camera award for her film "Noir et Blanc" (Black and White), presented outside the main competition in the category of "perspectives on film."

Australia's Jane Campion won the prize for best short film for "Peel."

Pollack, who served as a juror at Cannes in 1973, described the jury's work as very hard but enjoyable.



Villagers beat 11 robbers to death

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Villagers beat 11 suspected robbers to death as they tried to flee, police said Tuesday. Police in Mymensingh district, 193 kilometres north of Dhaka, told the Associated Press by telephone that four homemade guns and other weapons were taken from the dead men. The said local people and members of the village defence force caught the 11 as they apparently were planning a robbery in Salpacharpura village Monday night. The killings followed a mob attack on four villages in eastern Brahmanbaria district Friday and Saturday to flush out alleged cattle rustlers and thieves. At least 19 people were killed, more than 100 were injured and 50 were missing.

Prosecutor cries at court

JAKARTA (R) — A prosecutor burst into tears while urging a court to jail an Indonesian film actress and her husband accused of kidnapping and assaulting a reporter. Prosecutor J.T. Sihaban, dabbling at his eyes with his handkerchief and with his voice choking, asked the court to jail actress Yenny Rachman, 27, for three months. He demanded six months for her husband, film producer Budi Prakosa, 34. "It's a personal family matter," Sihaban told mystified reporters after the court session. The actress and her husband are accused of ordering their bodyguards to kidnap magazine reporter S.K. Martha in December. He was taken to a beach cottage in Jakarta and stripped naked and beaten. The court told the defendants were upset over Martha's magazine story about their marriage.

Archaeological find in Azarbaijan

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Archaeologists have found more than 150 pieces of ancient artifacts belonging to the first millennium B.C. in Azarbaijan province, Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency reported Sunday. The agency, monitored here, said the artifacts included earthenware, stone seals, coins and metal and gold bracelets at two sites around Meshkinshahr and Khalkhal. IRNA added that among the objects were 17 seals with animal and human engravings belonging to the Achaemenid, Parthian and the post-Islamic dynasties, with Pahlavi and Kufic inscriptions. There is a gold hair-band which is about 3,000 years old, and has pictures of animals and a Babylonian goddess. In addition, there are five gold bracelets, 67 gold and silver coins and a number of earthenware in the find, IRNA said.

Japanese mining companies turn to robots

SINGAPORE (R) — Japan's mining companies have been so badly hurt by the strengthening of the yen they are thinking of sending robot miners underground to cut costs. Masamichi Fujimori, president of the giant Sumitomo Metal Mining Company, told a mining conference here that engineers were working on ways to operate mines without men below ground. "An unattended operation requires the construction of a computer control system and the introduction of technology related to mechatronics and robots," he said. In Japan a few robotised factories already work through the night with just one computer engineer to watch over them. Fujimori said robot mining is just one way Japan's metal companies were trying to save money as their profits fell.

'Chess' gets rapturous welcome

LONDON (R) — "Chess," an East-West clash of chess champions set to music, received a rapturous welcome at its London premiere on May 15. The musical, taking over at the theatre where "Evita" ran for eight years, is written by British lyricist Tim Rice and the song-writing half of the Swedish pop group Abba, composers Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson. The first night audience gave the \$6 million show a standing ovation and a ebullient musical. "I think it's a great musical. I just hope other people were reserved for Swedish singer Tommy Körberg who, judging by the applause, stole the show from the diminutive star Elaine Paige.

Government party gains majority in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh's pro-government Jatiya Party Tuesday won an absolute majority in protracted parliamentary elections marked by violence and charges of widespread fraud.

The election commission said Jatiya had won 152 seats out of 299 counted. The opposition 15-party alliance took 96, of which the main Awami League Party had 75.

Fresh disturbances forced authorities to allow cancel polling at the only remaining constituency at Narsingdi, 42 kilometres northeast of Dhaka, the commission said.

Voting took place Monday in 14 of the 32 areas where polling was ordered following election day violence on May 7.

Sheikh Hasina Wajed, president of the Awami League, has charged that her party was cheated of victory in the polls by "wanton rigging" by Jatiya with police connivance.

Although Jatiya has won the poll, it was left far short of the two-thirds majority required to endorse the four years of military rule by President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

President Ershad needs the endorsement to head off a possible secession charge against him when he lifts martial law, restores the constitution he suspended in 1982 and returns the country to civilian rule.

Bangladesh introduced a constitution in 1972 providing for a Westminster type of parliamentary democracy. In a drastic change in 1975, it switched to a one-party system, but in 1979 again reverted to multi-party democracy.

But the constitution made no provision for martial law. Legal experts say President Ershad's government would be termed illegal unless his martial law proclamation was ratified by a two-thirds majority in parliament.

Jatiya Party Secretary General M. A. Matin said the majority would not be a problem "if it comes to the crunch."

He told Reuters many of the 30 independents who won seats would support the government when the bill for ratification was introduced in the house. Smaller parties like Muslim League and the National Socialist Party might also back the move.

Chinese journal laments failings of party members

PEKING (R) — Chinese Communist Party members are too often incompetent, ill-educated or corrupt, and the party's ranks are ageing, the official ideological journal Red Flag said Tuesday.

The journal complained that too many party members were afflicted with "infectious diseases" such as obsession with money, addiction to bureaucratic practices and abuse of social connections for personal gain.

It said 80 per cent of the 42 million party members were either illiterate or had at most a lower high-school education, adding that such low attainments hindered the drive for better standards in party work.

Red Flag cited a survey of more than 70,000 party officials in northeast Hebei province last year that found that 20 per cent were too inactive to justify their membership.

Of nearly 2,000 members in the Peking area, more than 10 per cent made a bad impression with "relatively serious" problems, while between 1.5 and two per cent had broken the law or shown anarchic tendencies.

The article said fresh attention must be given to rejuvenating the party, as only four per cent of members were below 25 years old and 14 per cent were below 30.

Tropical cyclone leaves 35,000 people homeless

HONOLULU (R) — About 35,000 people were left homeless as tropical cyclone Nami cut a path of destruction across the Solomon Islands, flattening whole villages and sweeping victims out to sea, rescue officials said Tuesday.

A spokesman for the national disaster committee said one death had been confirmed but dozens of people were still missing as rescue workers struggled to reach outlying islands.

The spokesman said some of the missing could have been swept away into the sea by heavy floods but the full extent of damage and casualties might not be known for several days.

He said the cost to the island nation of 300,000 people was certain to run into millions of dollars. Nami, with winds up to 100 knots moved away from the South Pacific island group Tuesday morning after nearly 48 hours.

The cyclone, described as the worst in several years, brought torrential rains and many rivers in the Guadalcanal plain near here burst their banks.

"So far only one death has been confirmed. But we expect a lot more. Complete villages have been flattened and thousands are marooned in remote areas," he said.

Relief workers were using two small private helicopters and canoes to rush supplies to isolated communities, he added.

Royal Australian air force Hercules aircraft were expected at Honiara airport with relief supplies Wednesday morning, he said. The airport was flooded but reopened late Tuesday.

Damage to foodcrops was heavy but official estimates were not immediately available.

Eurocommunists to form new leftwing Greek party

ATHENS (AP) — Greece's small Eurocommunist Party, which has one deputy in the 300-member parliament, decided over the weekend to dissolve itself next year and found a new broadly leftwing political party.

Delegates to the Interior Communist Party (IKES) congress approved a proposal to form a new party by 289 votes to 231.

The decision reinforced the position of Mr. Leonidas Kyriakos, the party's only member of parliament, congress delegates said.

Mr. Kyriakos, a 62-year-old former journalist and one of Greece's most popular politicians, had called for a change in the party's name in order to broaden its support. He was opposed by party leader, Mr. Yiannis Baniats.

The decision to form a new party came as a compromise solution after hours of wrangling, delegates said.

The new party is expected to adopt Marxist principles but drop the communist label that prevented it from attracting moderate leftwingers, IKES members said.

Despite the party's small size, the Eurocommunists wield considerable political influence because of backing from leading Greek writers and intellectuals.

IKES members say the new party should attract more working class voters and also defectors from Premier Andreas Papandreu's ruling Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK).

S. Koreans go wild in anti-U.S. protests

SEOUL (R) — Thousands of students battled riot police Tuesday after a youth set fire to himself and jumped from a two-storey building during a Seoul campus protest against the South Korean and U.S. governments, witnesses said.

The youth, who shouted "go away U.S. imperialists" before jumping, was taken to hospital and student sources said he was seriously ill.

Students, who had been attending a memorial meeting for victims of the bloody 1980 Kwangju civilian uprising against the South Korean military, rained rocks and petrol bombs on ranks of riot police, who fired tear gas in an effort to disperse the mob.

Latest reports said about 1,000 riot police entered the Seoul National University grounds and surrounded the students. One witness said the disturbances were the worst on a South Korean campus this year.

Over the last few months there has been a series of violent protests directed against President Chun Doo Hwan and the U.S. administration which supports him.

Last month two students set fire to themselves in front of the same Seoul university during a protest. One later died, but the other is reported improving after skin grafts.

Many South Korean students violently oppose President Chun, whom they call a military dictator and blame for the crushing of the Kwangju revolt.

Official figures put the Kwangju death toll at 193 but student and opposition figures allege it was much higher.

In recent weeks some radical campus groups have injected a tone of strident anti-Americanism into their protests.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K106 ♣K9 ♢K763 ♣J854
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South
1 ♣ Dble 2
What action do you take?
- Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠9 ♣AQ5 ♢K108765 ♣AK6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q1087642 ♣A7 ♢A107 ♠9
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
1 NT Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠95 ♣Q873 ♢AK52 ♣764
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 1 NT West
3 ♣ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK10